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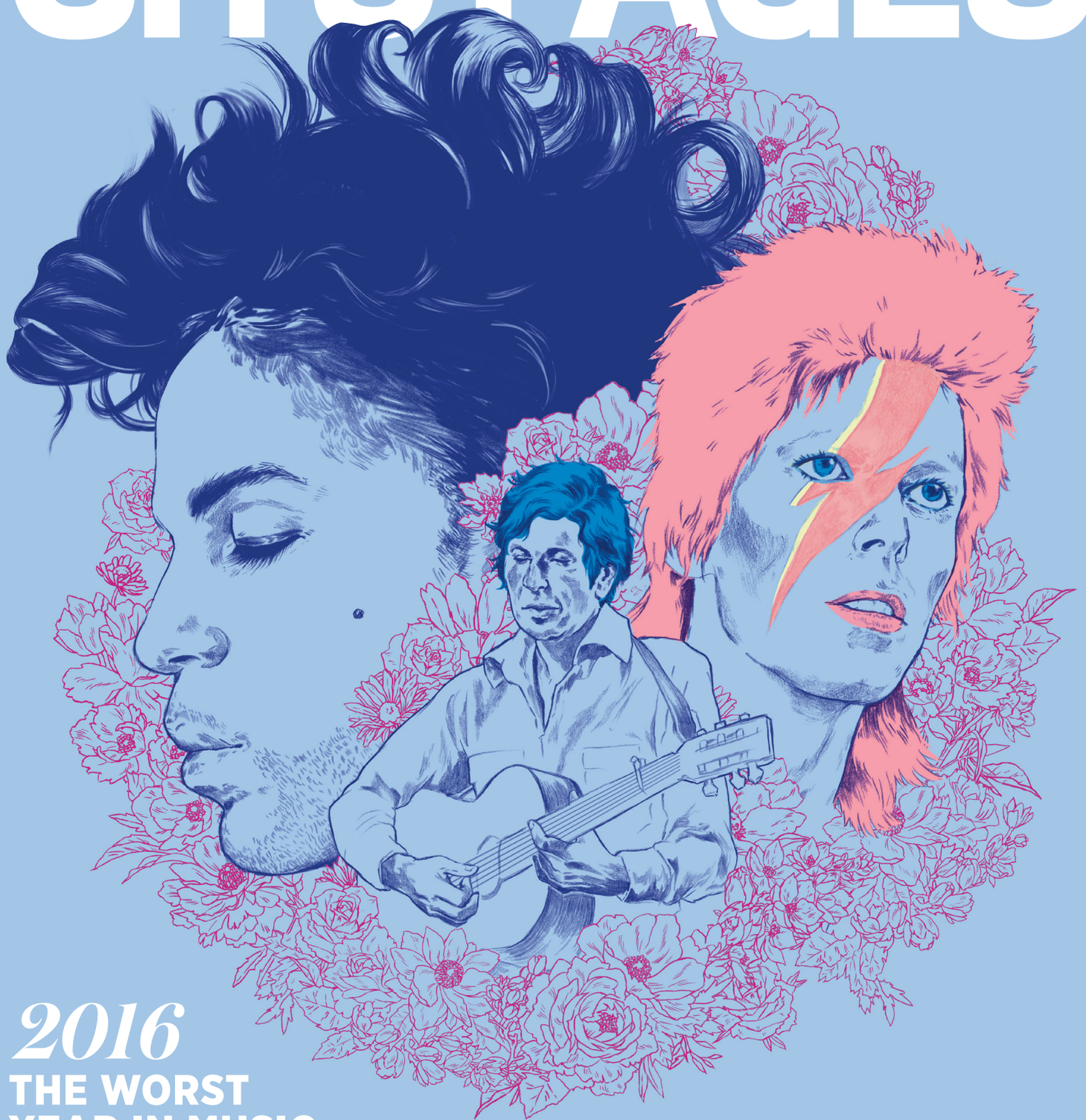

2016
THE WORST YEAR IN MUSIC

MULLEN Rewatching *The Mighty Ducks* in 2016 *p. 6* | **FOOD** Golden Corral gilds Maple Grove *p. 21* | **HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE** *Inside! p. 28*

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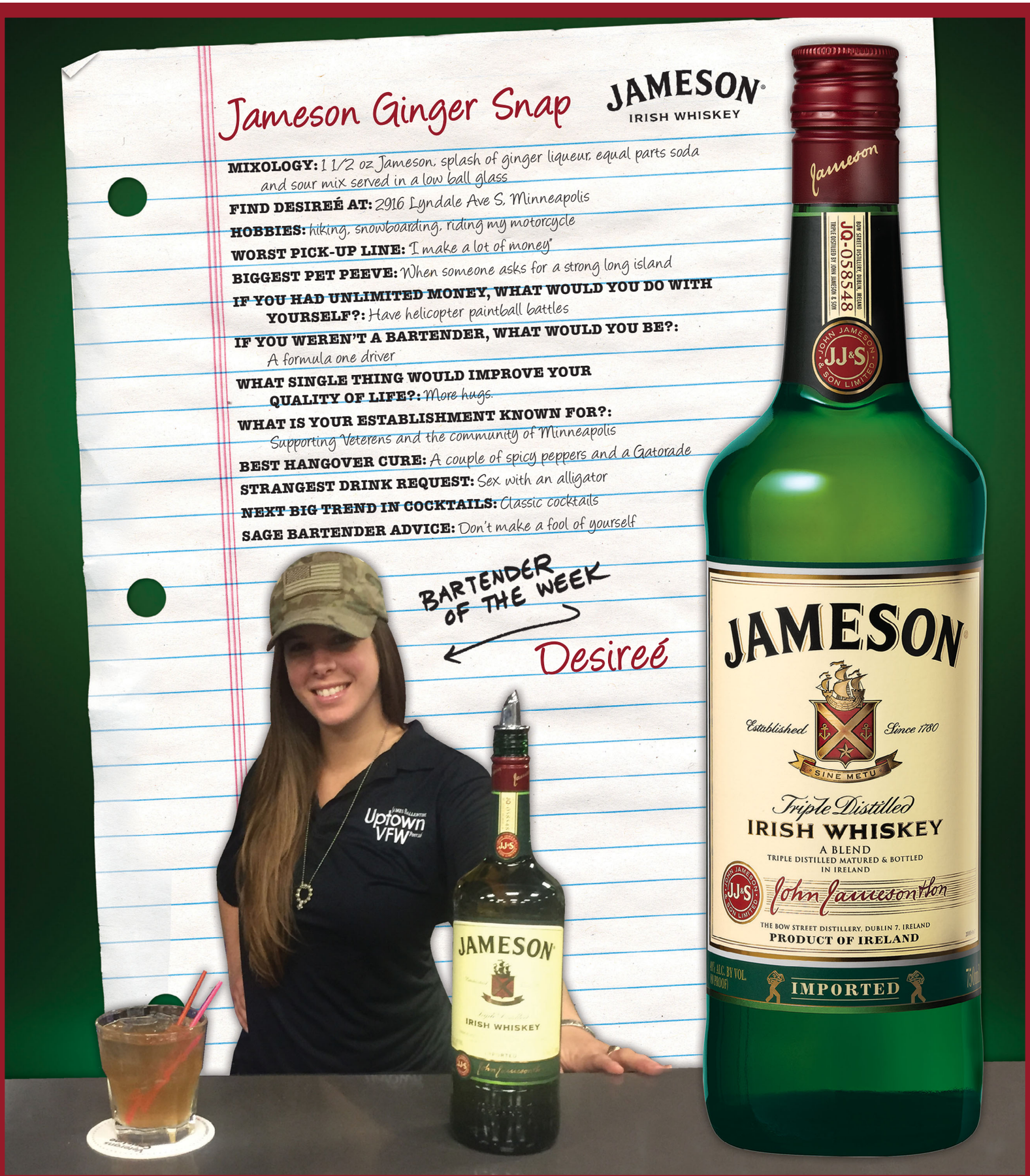

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December 14-20, 2016

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TONY NELSON

THE STAT SHEET

67%
Proportion of Donald Trump voters who believe unemployment rose during the Obama administration

50%
Amount by which unemployment was actually cut during Obama's reign

0
Number of welfare recipients caught using drugs in a Michigan pilot program that tested 443 people

8
Number of Division II national titles won in the last decade by the women's volleyball team at Concordia University in St. Paul

> **"This is almost as sad as Nickelback calling us names."**

Reader Jeff Heimer responds to "Kid Rock shirt calls Minnesota 'Dumfuckistan' for not voting for Trump," at citypages.com

PARASITES

THE GREAT RACE to Gouge the American Consumer has come to your bedroom. A single pill of Viagra or Cialis now costs about $50, triple the price in 2010. And Big Pharma has even greater predation in store for women.

Addyi, the new "female Viagra" designed to cure low sex drives, comes with a price tag of $800 a month.

The good news is that President-elect Donald Trump made negotiating runaway drug prices a major part of his campaign. The bad news is he's dropped any mention of it since the election under pressure from Republicans in Congress, who are loath to bite the lobbyists who feed them.

POPULAR STORIES
AT CITYPAGES.COM

KID ROCK shirt calls Minnesota 'Dumbfuckistan' for not voting for Trump

GARRISON KEILLOR says Keith Ellison, 'lackluster black Muslim,' is wrong for DNC chair

Watch the naughty rap video shot at **PATRICK HENRY HIGH SCHOOL** in Minneapolis [Video]

Is this tiny **UPTOWN MINNEAPOLIS** apartment worth $1,100 a month?

Everyone freak out: **'HAMILTON'** is coming to Minneapolis

THE WRONG CROWD

The U finds itself unknowingly funding Breitbart.com

Students protested a speech by Breitbart contributor Milo Yiannopolous. Now, alumni are protesting the whole site.

LEILA NAVIDI, STAR TRIBUNE

Breitbart.com is a scary place. Even for the people who *want* to be there.

Consider a few headlines from Monday morning: "Berlin's New Secretary of State: Pro-Sharia Conservative Muslim"; "Migrant terror suspect used Amazon Gift Cards to Purchase Bomb Components"; "ACLU sues Indiana town over cross on top of Christmas Tree"; "Motel raid yields stash of 15 illegal migrants."

Read those, and it makes sense for Breitbart to provide its startled readers with a list of "Six great pocket guns for your Christmas wish list."

But now picture yourself sifting through these spooky stories and coming across something you least expected: the University of Minnesota's logo.

This very experience happened recently to a U of M graduate. Horrified to see her alma mater subsidizing the site, the woman reached out to university President Eric Kaler, as did several other concerned alumni, in a small but vociferous email campaign. They wanted the school to stop advertising on Breitbart.

Last week, at least one got a reply from someone in Kaler's office. "I agree with you completely," a staffer responded, saying the school pulled its advertising from Breitbart immediately.

The representative explained that the school contracted its ad buys to a "media buyer," and therefore did not know that it was using Breitbart.

"We have also removed Breitbart as an option so that no University of Minnesota advertising will appear there in the future," reads the email.

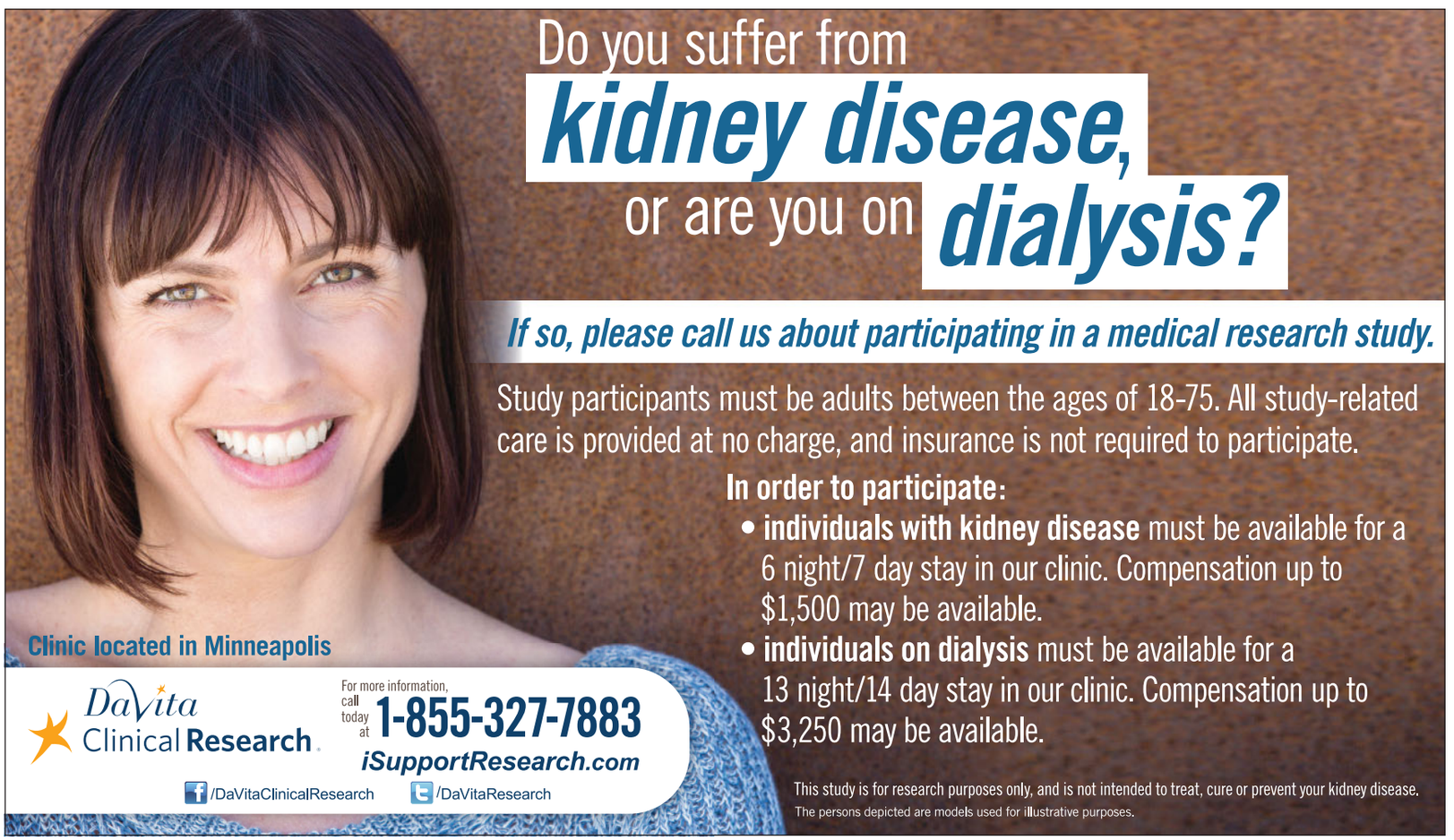
The original ad, pitching tickets to Gophers sporting events, was purchased through the Google Display Network, which then places advertising across millions of websites. If that ad was showing up on Breitbart, it's because Google determined people on that site might want to buy University of Minnesota sports tickets.

By instructing its media buyer to exclude Breitbart, the U joins a growing list of companies that want no ties with the site, including Kellogg's, medical device manufacturer Novo Nordisk, the San Diego Zoo, and Warby Parker, makers of designer eyeglasses.

Breitbart has already stirred controversy on the U of M campus this year, as dozens of students protested a talk by contributor Milo Yiannopoulos, a conservative commentator who rails against political correctness and has said "rape culture" is an invented concept.

Will the U ever have ads on Breitbart again? Spokesman Chuck Tombarge says the university is weighing its options.

"It's probably too early to speculate about what we will and won't do." —MIKE MULLEN



D2, 22 years later

12 questions I had watching *D2: The Mighty Ducks* in 2016

Mike Mullen

Christmas came early for cinephiles nationwide when Netflix announced new movies available starting this month. It's a long list. Ignore all but one: *D2: The Mighty Ducks*.

The 1994 movie was crushed by critics but beloved by fans, who turned it into the an underdog success. Starring Emilio Estevez as Gordon Bombay, the down-on-his-luck would-be player/reluctant coach, the sequel inspires us to love ourselves, hockey, and our country. (Spoiler alert: America.)

It also inspires a few questions.

1. Does Minneapolis suck?

Early in the movie, Bombay says he doesn't want to get stuck "sharpening skates in this rinky-dink town." Later, Don Tibbles, the huckster sporting-goods rep from Hendrix Hockey, threatens Bombay, saying if the team doesn't shape up he'll wind up back in "Palookaville, Minnesota, shoveling snow." It sure is a lot of shit-talking from a movie franchise that helped launch a professional hockey team in fucking Anaheim.

2. What's up with the USA Hockey junior team?

Just before a major tournament, the Americans have no coach. More than half the players are recruited by a group of teenagers rollerblading around Lake of the Isles. Before a cheap shot from the infamous "Norbert" blows out Bombay's knee, ending his minor league hockey career, Team USA is in shambles.

3. Were these backstories written by the guys at Breitbart.com?

As the movie starts, Jesse Hall, a black teenager, is playing in-line hockey on a St. Paul playground (read: whiling away his youth on the streets). Haverman, the curly-haired Woody Allen sound-alike from Brooklyn Park, is selling movie tickets (read: controlling Hollywood). Charlie Conway, a descendant of Irish immigrants, is working an unpaid job at a skate sharpening shop while some European makes all the profits (read: "We don't make anything anymore"). If this movie's beginning relied any more on stereotyping, it'd be blowing creepy air kisses to Ivanka.

4. What's with all the bondage?

Dwayne Robertson, the fancy-skatin' cowboy from Texas, uses his lasso to corral one opposing player before he can check Connie Moreau. Bombay ties the entire team together to teach them how to work together. At the movie's start, "Bash Brothers" enforcer Fulton Reed catches some Edina villains from the first movie up to no good, and ties them to a tree... but first, he strips off their shirts and pants. D2 is basically *50 Shades of Grey* with a puck.

5. Why didn't "strudel-head" catch on as an insult?

6. Does Gordon bang Marria, the sex kitten/spy trainer for the Iceland team?

It's certainly implied he did. The two are spotted canoodling around Los Angeles one night. Then Iceland slaughters Team USA 12-1, and afterward, the American kids complain Iceland "knew everything about us." This could only be true if 1) Gordon "landed safely in Reykjavik," so to speak; 2) he seduces women by explaining his junior hockey team's assorted weaknesses; and 3) he calls out his power play lines during climax. Now that's Minnesotan sex.

7. Is the Air Bombay Loafer, "for kids who wanna coach," the worst product idea ever?

And why, when Gordon pitches it to him at a ritzy L.A. party, doesn't Kareem Abdul Jabar take his giant right hand and smack this clueless dope across the face?

8. Why does Charlie Conway hate America?

"Can't we be U.S.A. Ducks?" he whines. "Or at least keep our own colors?" Evidently red, white, and blue isn't good enough for this traitor. Later, when Adam Banks' wrist recovers before the gold medal game, Charlie volunteers his roster spot to join Bombay on the bench. Sheesh. Somebody fit this kid for a pair of loafers.

9. Is a duck call really the best way to rally ducks?

This is precisely the same cruel device that has lured millions of ducks to their deaths. "Ducks fly together!" And get shot out of the sky! And picked up by someone's golden retriever! And taken to a taxidermist! DUCKS! DUCKS! DUCKS!

10. Are people from Iceland very sneaky?

The entire Iceland team, constituting roughly half the population of that country, gets onto the ice while Team USA are chasing a beach ball during practice. No one notices until the ball rolls right up to all of them. In a one-on-one contest with Bombay, Iceland coach Wolf "The Dentist" Stansson slashes Gordon's already injured knee. Lesson: Never turn your back on someone from Iceland. And for God's sake don't bang them.

11. Wait, is this movie secretly feminist?

Connie kicks the ass of any goon who tries picking on her. Miss Mackay, team tutor, takes over as coach one game when Bombay no-shows, breaking the ice ceiling that had kept women from coaching the national team. And Julie "The Cat" Gaffney makes the play of the tournament (Spoiler alert! On a 22-year-old movie!) with a glove save on Iceland's last penalty shot in the final. Without them, this team would be headed for fifth place, Gordon's out of a job and probably falling back off the wagon, and Charlie would be forced into a life of indentured servitude at Jan's skate shop in Palookaville.

12. What happened to Jacques Berman?

Introduced as the color commentator for the tournament final, Berman says absolutely nothing throughout the game, leaving all the work to his partner Bob Miller. Is Berman commentating in sign language? Is he killed before the puck drops? WHERE IS JACQUES? His half-second on screen is the best acting in this whole wonderful movie. CP

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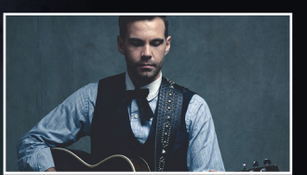

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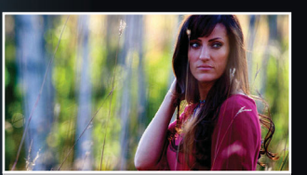

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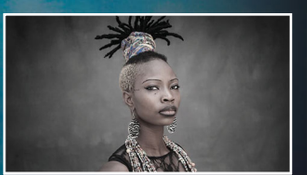

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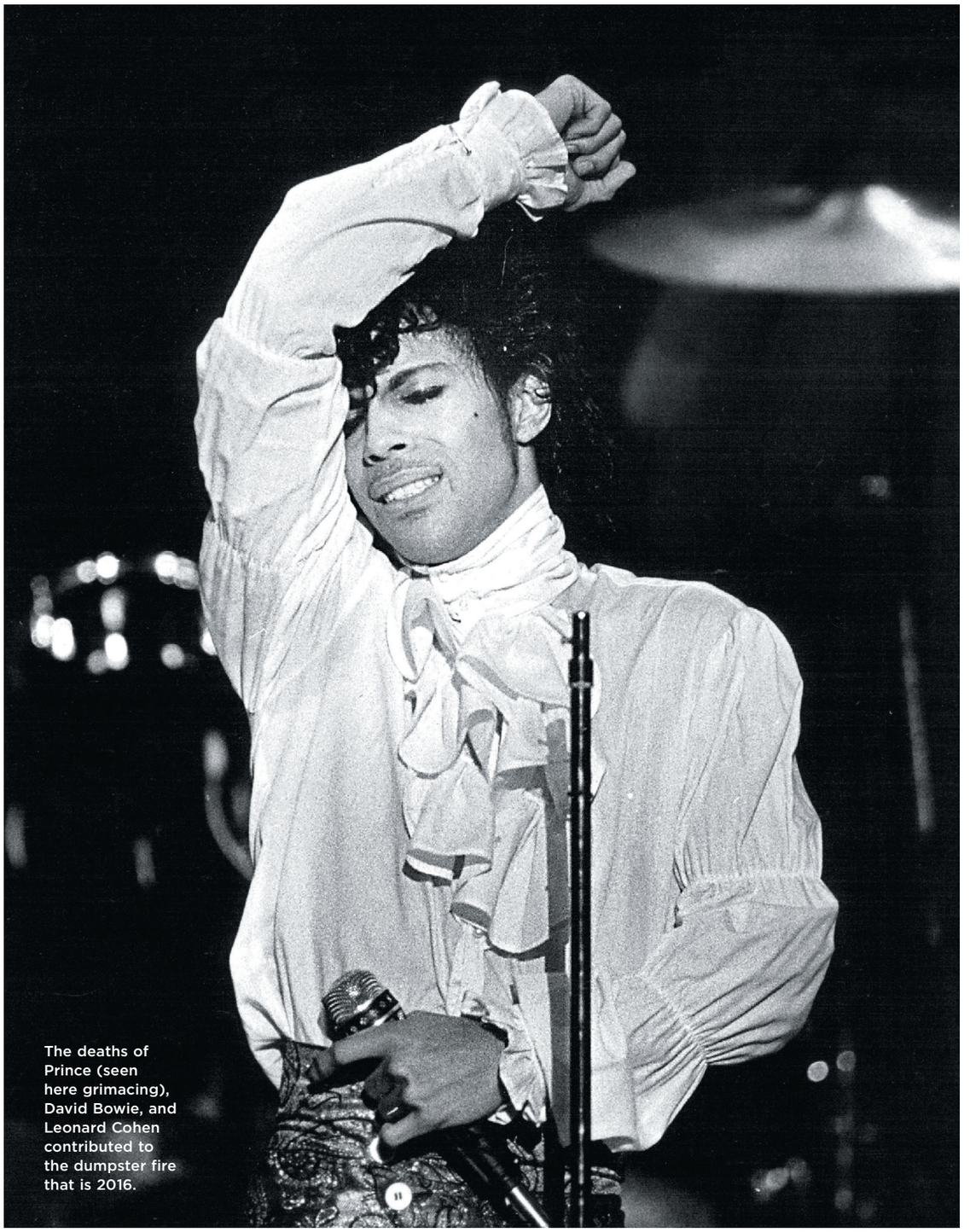


The deaths of Prince (seen here grimacing), David Bowie, and Leonard Cohen contributed to the dumpster fire that is 2016.

DAVID BREWSTER/STAR TRIBUNE

2016 WAS THE FUCKING WORST

The music world suffered mightily this year, but fans found solace in the songs and each other

BY ERIK THOMPSON

After this past year, the music world will never sound — or look — the same again.

Losing true icons like David Bowie, Prince, and Leonard Cohen in 2016 — as well as Merle Haggard, Alan Vega, Lemmy Kilmister, George Martin, Phife Dawg, Glenn Frey, Bobbby Vee, Sharon Jones, and more — leaves the musical landscape forever changed.

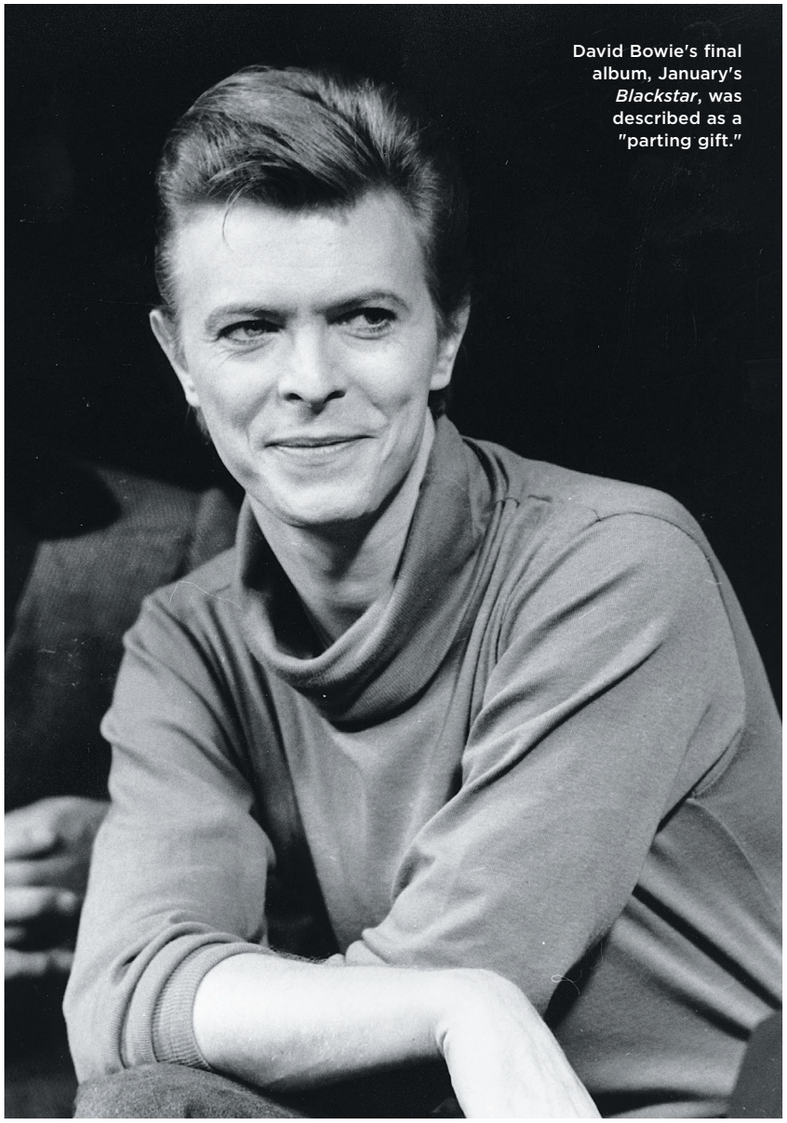
Bowie, Prince, and Cohen were all singular musicians who we'll never see the likes of again. They each brought distinctive skills and styles to their songs, to their stages, and to their lives, forever redefining pop culture in the process. Now we just have their music.

As each gut-wrenching headline hit, music fans bound together in the comfort of that music. These artists provided pivotal soundtracks to our lives, so each individual's grieving process played out uniquely, but the public acts of mourning and celebration struck a universal chord.

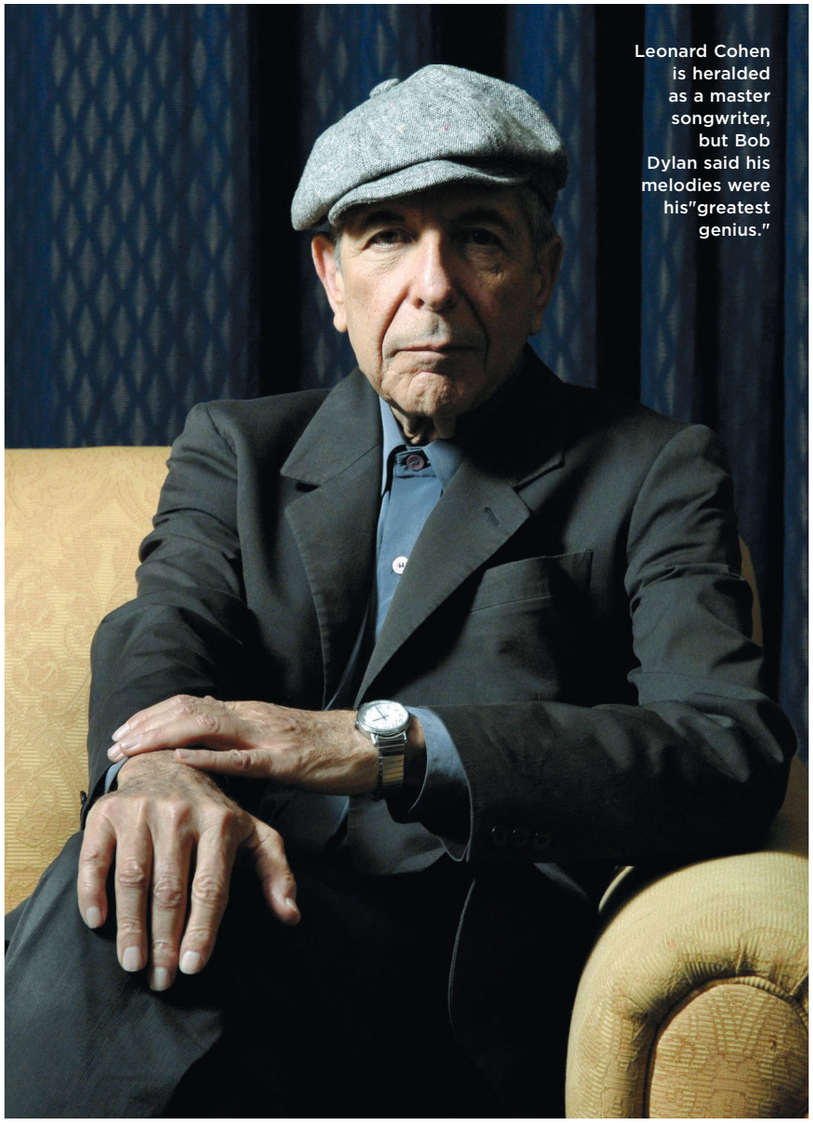
Bowie, Prince, and Cohen's songs rang out from bars, bedrooms, radios, and street corners in the days, weeks, and months after their respective deaths. On April 21, the day we lost Prince, First Avenue scrambled to put on a memorial concert and threw all-night dance parties that lasted for days. Three months earlier, when we lost Bowie, tribute shows began popping up all around the Twin Cities. Ditto for Cohen, who left us in November.

Falling in love with music is often a solitary experience — quiet contemplation at the altar of your home stereo or blissfully losing yourself in a pair of headphones. The international outpouring of grief for Bowie, Prince, and Cohen, however, provided proof that we weren't alone in our anguish or our admiration. These losses were significant, and our pain was real, but impromptu tributes around the globe showcased a collective strength and unshakable unity among fans, dancing and singing their shared blues away.

We were all lamenting the loss of musical heroes, sure, but we were also mourning for parts of ourselves that were lost forever. The songs and albums these artists gifted the world are inextricably linked to significant moments in our lives. Once you've taken them to heart, these songs — their indelible melodies, insightful lyrics, and catchy hooks — can instantly transport you back to a school dance, a house party, a first car, a college dorm. Wherever you were



David Bowie's final album, January's *Blackstar*, was described as a "parting gift."



Leonard Cohen is heralded as a master songwriter, but Bob Dylan said his melodies were his "greatest genius."

MARTY LEDERHANDLER/AP; AARON HARRIS/AP

THE INTERNATIONAL OUTPOURING OF GRIEF PROVIDED PROOF THAT WE WEREN'T ALONE IN OUR ANGUISH OR OUR ADMIRATION.

and whatever you were doing when you first heard "Life on Mars," "Purple Rain," or "Hallelujah," you're transported back as soon as those initial notes strike. That flood of emotions doesn't coincide with every song, but it absolutely happens with theirs. That's what makes Bowie, Prince, and Cohen so unique, and it's also what makes their losses so profound.

Music is indeed a time machine. Putting on a specific song can make you feel young again or make you fall in love again, make you feel invincible or vulnerable. But that feeling, as special as it is, is only temporary. It's fleeting. It's ephemeral. It's illusory. That's part of why losing so many musical greats in 2016 proved so painful — it's an unshakable reminder that none of us are getting out of here alive, and that music, or anything else, can't save us. Bowie, Prince, and Cohen felt indestructible; their flames would surely burn longer and brighter than ours. Seeing them extinguished was a shock few were prepared for, no matter how many warning signs had surfaced. In the case of Prince, there was the emergency plane landing six days prior to his death, and Bowie and Cohen all but predicted theirs with powerful farewell albums.

Through their music, all three legends challenged listeners to think — think of the world, think of love, think of sex, think of ourselves — in bold new ways. They brazenly dismantled societal norms about what a modern musician — and a man — could sound, look, and act like. They redefined expectations about masculinity, dismissing generations of macho posturing with behavior that was far more sensual and real. They blurred the lines of sexuality so that all the freaks and outsiders felt emboldened, welcome to join whatever peculiar parties suited their true selves.

Losing icons is something we'll have to get more accustomed to. Many music superstars of the '60s, '70s, and '80s spent their careers living, playing, and partying hard — ingredients that don't mix well with age. Moments of loss will increase in frequency, a sorrowful reality for music fans clinging to fond memories spurred by songs, especially as the political climate appears increasingly grim. And therein lies the paradox: The music and artists we turn to for comfort will eventually leave us heartbroken when they're no longer here to take the stage and heal us, even for a night.

The world was simply a more hopeful — and magical — place with David Bowie, Prince, and Leonard Cohen in it. The stars indeed look very different today, but at least music lovers can gaze upon them together, with a common soundtrack that will never die.

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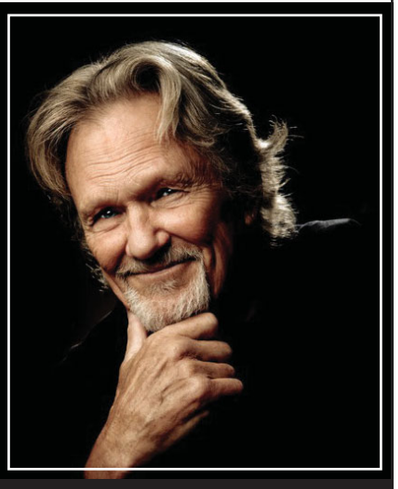

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2016 IN REVIEW

A month-by-month recap of all the Minnesota music news fit to print ... or blog

BY JAY BOLLER

WATCH THE STOVE ALBUM COVER/ WALE AGBOOLA

JANUARY

- Pohlad media empire launches **GO 95.3 FM**, the first modern hip-hop frequency in the Twin Cities since 2010. "This is like the Ketel One of rap stations," boasts music director/DJ **MR. PETER PARKER**.
- Former Minneapolis band **IS/IS** changed their name for obvious reasons. "[Is/Is] has metamorphosed from an intentional non-signifier to an unintentional reminder of what can be horrible in this world," reports the indie-rock group that will henceforth be known as **CANDACE**.
- Longtime Cities 97 DJ **BRIAN OAKE** jumps ship for 89.3 the Current's *Morning Show*. "I've always been a fan [of the Current]; this is my music," he says.
- DJ Jake Rudh's popular Transmission dance night ditches the **VARSITY THEATER** as sex-crime allegations against its owner, Jason McLean, mount. Citing the scandal, touring bands Against Me!, Baroness, and Warpaint all nix gigs.

FEBRUARY

- **"SWEET LOU" SNIDER**, the master barroom pianist for decades at Nye's Polonaise Room, dies from cancer at 81.
- "Are you ready to be entertained? Are you ready to be transformed?" asks **BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN** as he plunges into his impassioned The River Tour stop at Xcel Energy Center.
- Long-running St. Paul music/food/fireworks festival **A TASTE OF MINNESOTA** dies. The fest reemerged from bankruptcy in 2014 ... to Waconia, Minnesota ... with P.O.D. and Foghat.
- "I'm bigger than anything you can imagine. This makes Taco Bell big because they got the best-known, most loved, charismatic personality in Minnesota to sell their product," comic/pitchman **"FANCY RAY" MCCLONEY** on his Super Bowl ad for Taco Bell's Quesalupa that took place inside **TREEHOUSE RECORDS**.

MARCH

- Live music returns to the condo-rich Uptown neighborhood of Minneapolis, as the **JAMES BALLENTINE VFW POST 246** announces a spiffy new, 400-capacity concert space.
- **LIZZO** signs to Atlantic Records! The irrepressible Minnesota-launched rapper/singer/new MTV host issued her major-label debut, the *Coconut Oil* EP, in October.
- Swedish sad-boy rapper **YUNG LEAN** cancels his show at the Fine Line in the wake of online bomb threats.
- Duluth's **GAELYNN LEA** bests more than 6,000 other entrants to win National Public Radio's Tiny Desk Contest. The inspirational singer/fiddler's prizes include an enviable Tiny Desk Concert of her own, plus a national tour.

APRIL

- Doors open at **THE WARMING HOUSE**, the intimate new music venue in south Minneapolis where "anyone can come and sit and listen to music and hear all the words," says co-founder **BRIANNA LANE**.
- The collective heart of Minnesota shatters into a million purple pieces as **PRINCE ROGERS NELSON** is discovered dead of a painkiller overdose at his Paisley Park compound in Chanhassen. The Minneapolis-born music god was 57.

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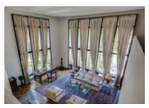

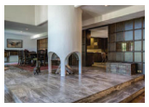

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ANTHONY SAINT JAMES

- Locals **BOBBY RAPS** and **DJ TIIIIIIIIIP** score viral fame with "Feed the Streets," their contribution to the *Watch the Stove* mixtape issued by General Mills' meat palletization brand **HAMBURGER HELPER**. "Honestly, we got a shit-load of Hamburger Helper," Tiiiiiiiiip says of the corporately synergized perks.
- The legendary **IGGY POP** humped amplifiers, writhed on the floor, and effectively behaved like a crazed puppy possessed by rock 'n' roll at Northrop Auditorium — his first Twin Cities show in 15 years.

MAY

- **OBADIAH GAMBLE**, an adorable 7-year-old Vikings fan, captivates YouTube with "Hey Teddy," his plea for quarterback **TEDDY BRIDGEWATER** to attend his birthday party; Bridgewater later heeds the call.
- Done fishin': Storied West Bank tavern/music hall **VIKING BAR** reopens after a decade of dormancy.
- Queen Bey and Sir Paul both dazzle Minneapolis, **BEYONCÉ** with her unapologically powerful Formation Tour at TCF Bank Stadium and **MCCARTNEY** with his vital-as-ever twofer at Target Center.
- ***ROOT OF ALL EVIL***, KFAI's beloved metal radio show, roars past episode 1,500. "We've done everything we can do to keep the show alive and make it grow — I think Earl would be proud of that," co-host **JOHN ALLEN** says of the show's founder, late local metal hero Earl Root.

JUNE

- No garden or island? No problem for sweaty, strong, temporarily relocated **ROCK THE GARDEN**. The fest didn't stumble with the **FLAMING LIPS** and **CHANCE THE RAPPER** at Minneapolis' Boom Island Park, which is really more of a peninsula.
- Not a great month for high-profile concerts, as City Pages writers found **JUSTIN BIEBER** sleepy and uninspired, **MACKLEMORE** thoroughly wack, and **THE CURE** tiresome. **PHISH** and **STURGILL SIMPSON** proved more agreeable.
- Minneapolis indie-rap institution **RHYMESAYERS ENTERTAINMENT** signs **SA-ROC** — the label's second non-male rapper in 21 years. "I feel like it's a step in the right direction," reports the bruising, metaphysical MC.
- **MOTION CITY SOUNDTRACK**, our state's most successful pop-punk exports, call

FRANK MICELOTTA/AP

it quits. "I never thought this would be my life, so thank you," frontman Justin Pierre says at his band's So Long, Farewell Tour stop at Varsity Theater.

JULY

- Twin Cities indie-pop stars **ON AN ON** shut it down three years after striking blog fame. "Someone else will come and be the next buzz band," frontman Nate Eiesland says. "Getting big should be a byproduct of great work."
- **DRAKE**'s irresistibly corny star power shines bright at Xcel Energy Center alongside his Summer Sixteen Tour partner **FUTURE**.
- **TIM KAINE** begins his Replacements mega-fan campaign, as the Democratic VP candidate reveals that *Let It Be* is his favorite album. Later stops see him repeatedly name-drop *Trouble Boys*, the essential new 'Mats bio, and desperately try to bond with U of M students over the '80s Minneapolis band.

"Someone else will come and be the next buzz band."

- "It's not going to be a party — I write sad songs, you know that, right?" **ADELE** warns at the onset of her awe-inspiring, highly personable show at Xcel.

AUGUST

- RIP, **MONTY LEE WILKES**. The veteran sound engineer for the Replacements, Prince, and First Avenue dies of cancer at 54.
- Hello, **U.S. BANK STADIUM**. Bro-country godfather **LUKE BRYAN** baptizes the taxpayer-funded $1.1 billion concert space in Miller Lite; hard-rock heavyweights **METALLICA** pummel it with sound the following night.
- The **BON IVER** ethos radiates from **EAUX CLAIRES**, the one-of-a-kind music and arts festival from mastermind **JUSTIN VERNON** and the National's **AARON DESSNER**. Vernon uses his Chippewa Valley, Wisconsin, fest to live-debut Bon Iver's latest, September's *22, A Million*.
- Three months after the surprise closing of Patrick's Cabaret, it's announced that Minneapolis' Longfellow neighborhood will score a new music venue in that space — the **HOOK AND LADDER THEATER & LOUNGE**, which opened September 2.

SEPTEMBER

- '90s rock 'n' roll reunion fever strikes: **SEMISONIC** unveil plans to perform their 1996 debut in its entirety on January 7 at First Ave; ex-Replacements bassist **TOMMY STINSON** reports his **BASH & POP** has a new record "coming soon."
- So long, **MILL CITY NIGHTS**. The downtown Minneapolis venue that infamously debuted as the Brick shutters after four years. **MUSIC HALL MINNEAPOLIS** is reportedly set to launch in its space.
- Colorado's Red Rocks Amphitheater scores a humdinger of a Minnesota lineup: rap superstar **LIZZO**, mostly dormant, cult-loved indie-rock faves **LIFTER PULLER**, and Rhymesayers heavy-hitters **ATMOSPHERE** and **BROTHER ALI**.
- Local standouts **MURDER SHOES** join fellow locals **FRANKIE TEARDROP, IN DEFENCE**, **GRRRL PRTY**, and **MOTION CITY SOUNDTRACK** at the great gig in the sky... which is to say they all broke up this year.

OCTOBER

- They're not breaking up, but Duluth bluegrass stars **TRAMPLED BY TURTLES** thank fans for "for an amazing first chapter" and go on hiatus.
- The all-star **"OFFICIAL PRINCE TRIBUTE CONCERT"** at Xcel Energy Center loses **JOHN MAYER** and **CHRISTINA AGUILERA** at the last minute, but preserveres with five hours of often unforgettable, sometimes regrettable nods to the Purple One.
- Fargo-born pop legend **BOBBY VEE** ("Take Good Care of My Baby," "Suzie Baby") dies at 73.
- Two troubled geniuses deliver the goods: **KANYE WEST** with his eye-popping

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ALEX KING

statement of purpose at Xcel, and Beach Boys creative force **BRIAN WILSON** with his fragile mastery at the Orpheum Theatre.

NOVEMBER

- If we're to believe City Pages, and we absolutely should, Picked to Click champions **ZULUZULUU** are the state's best new music act. The funky Afrofuturists won our annual poll in a landslide.
- **LIZZO** tried to lift the nation's spirits with a rousing performance on the post-election episode of *Full Frontal with Samantha Bee*.
- Thieves swipe gear from the van of Doomtree rapper **SIMS**, but a GoFundMe campaign quickly recoups the $19,000 in losses.
- Our loveable, inscrutable **BOB DYLAN** announces he won't accept his Nobel Prize for Literature at the December ceremony due to "other commitments."

DECEMBER

- Twin Cities music star **DESSA** earns worldwide exposure with her contribution to the mega-hyped ***HAMILTON MIXTAPE***. Lin-Manuel Miranda, star/creator of the Broadway smash from which it's inspired, "lives up to — and exceeds — his reputation as a generous, funny, approachable guy," Dessa says.
- Five Minnesota acts net 2017 Grammy nominations — the **OKEE DOKEE BROTHERS**, **KING**, **MINT CONDITION**, **PRINCE**, and **ERIC TIMOTHY CARLSON**, the local artist behind the artwork of Bon Iver's *22, A Million*.
- CNN, Huffington Post, TIME, and others hype a pro-consent rewrite of "Baby, it's Cold Outside" from twentysomething Twin Cities singer-songwriters **LYDIA LIZA** and **JOSIAH LEMANSKI**.
- **BOB DYLAN** doesn't receive his historic Nobel Prize in person, but the Hibbing-bred icon does supply a brilliantly penned speech for the ceremony in Sweden.

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DAVID ZIEMER

PEARLS OF POSITIVITY

Twin Cities musicians unearth the good moments of 2016 and give some hope for next year

BY JERARD FAGERBERG

The year 2016 has been dark. Not only did music legends pass at a depressing rate, but the socio-political climate offered no respite.

It was not only the year that claimed a Mount Rushmore of musicians, but also the year that fragmented families. The year that truth became subjective. The year that "cuck" became a political pejorative. The year that Americans stopped agreeing that cops killing unarmed citizens is a crime worth punishing.

It didn't seem like a time to indulge in creative pursuits, but Twin Cities artists persevered. We asked a handful of local music-makers to highlight some bright spots of 2016.

dj tiiiiiiiiip

Modish nostalgia wellspring; DJ, theStand4rd

"We all work really hard, and we've been working hard for all of our lives. Everyone that I'm involved with. I'm glad that this year was the year we started getting recognized for what we've been doing. I think it's beautiful.

"[Bobby Raps] and Psymun getting on the Weeknd's album [November's *Starboy*] was a good culmination of the year. It took a long time to materialize the relationships that went into that, and the timing is really good. Also, the Hamburger Helper [mixtape] in March was really, really poppin' for a second and changed our careers. It also wasn't defining, which I'm very thankful for, because I don't want Bobby and I to be those dudes for the rest of our lives. It'd be really sad if that was the one thing we ever did."

devata daun

Electro-darkwave spellbinder; co-owner, Pytch Records

"I got a lot of love from all different sides of the scene. I played with the punk kids for a while, and I did some hip-hop shows, and some goth ones, too, and everyone was really warm and welcoming. It's helped me maintain focus. Testing out things has helped me define and shape everything.

"And all these really negative times have brought us together as a scene. We all have more or less similar ethics, and we all want peace and love, and everyone really came together and supported each other. I felt so much love, even as a new kid in the scene. There have been so many tragedies, but you have to keep going, and the support helps. There's always the good and the bad, but if you're working, there's always some positive result."

why khaliq

Diffident hip-hop collectivist

"My positivity this year has been my daughter. I had a daughter in October [of 2015], and this whole year's been about growth and teaching her about this world. Ever since I've had her, I've had a lot of success, thankfully, through the grace of God. Ever

since the beginning of the year, a lot of opportunities have opened up for me. From being on the radio a few times to Pitchfork to Pigeons and Planes, different things like that, small accomplishments, kept me going.

"We're starting to get a lot of shine in Minnesota. A lot of artists here have grown and developed their own styles. We're like a boiling pot of different artists and different genres. I'm very excited for 2017. A lot of Minnesota artists are gonna get the shine that they really deserve."

jo kellen

Effervescent punk rocker; singer, the Florists

"This year was our first as a band, and we really tightened our sound, but I think the thing we all look back on fondly was our release show back in July. We almost sold out the 7th St. [Entry] on a Monday night, which totally surprised us. I got a bunch of people to lay down on the ground and then pick me up and crowd surf me across the venue, which is something I never thought I'd do, much less to a song I wrote with my own band. It's been a really awesome first full year.

"We're really interested in expressing our personalities to the fullest. That release show was a crazy day because, just before getting on stage, I'd come out to my parents. It was the first day that I'd gone out in full femme presentation in public, which was a big step for me emotionally. Getting the opportunity to take that emotional moment and being able to express that through the vector of the Florists was a very, very exciting thing, and folks have responded in kind."

charlie bruber

Bohemian rhythm diviner; bassist, TABAH

"We've been working so hard. We just kept pushing for momentum, and we just decided we wanted to record an album in the year, and we recorded one in June at this analog studio in Nashville. For the first half of 2016, we just kept working and playing. There were hard days, but we learned so much about each other, and by the time we got to the recording session, we did it in 10 days of studio time, mixing included. We've gained such a bond from that.

"With Prince dying and all this political crap, it's been a very stressful year, but all this good stuff has come from our drive to persevere. It's always hard as an artist to have a vision that no one else understands, and getting over that insecurity — it's a bunch of blind faith, but it's been great. We're a family, now."

dan israel

Working dad, folk storyteller

"We lost all these amazing people, and then the election was a freakin' disaster, but what I think is happening now is people are dedicating themselves. In the absence of hope, I feel myself turning inward and figuring out what I can do to make it better. My kids are 11 and 8, and I don't wanna tell them that there's no future in this world. A lot of people are trying to find their way, and I think that makes music more necessary than ever. To have something that you feel is true when everything else feels completely false.

"I had a busy year musically. I put out [*Dan*] earlier this year, and I got some cool gigs, I opened for Steve Miller Band, but more than ever, the reason I'm making music has crystallized. If it's not to express how you feel about a thing, what's the point? I'm trying to dig into my feelings, and I look around me, and I see people thirsting for music, thirsting for something that's real and true. It sounds naive, but I still think a good song can change the world."

ISIAH ALLEN

SAMANTHA LEE ANN

tek

Wayward hustler, prodigious rapper/producer

"I was locked up at the beginning of the year. I lost so much being away. When I got out, I was like, 'I'm not gonna miss opportunities like that anymore.' Now I have my freedom, and I'm able to create when I want to. I'm off parole now, and I don't have that weight on me anymore, and that's been the biggest blessing.

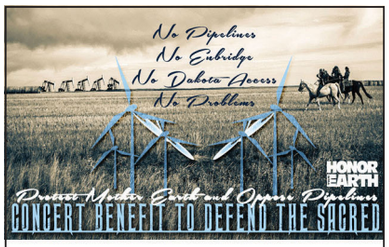
"I was involved in a lot of projects this year that were amazing. [Metasota]'s project. Being on records with [Muja Messiah] and R.P. Hooks and feeling like the buzz is back. It's such a good feeling. People received it so well. The love was huge. My local release show was sold out. The energy was so great in there, and that's really what I'm about, getting that good energy out there. I'm such a part of this city, and I just want to make sure we're all sending out the right energy."

sarah white

Peregrine afro-punk spiritualist

"For a lot of us, this was a year of reinvention. Because of the heavy weight of the things going on in our social and political systems, I was forced to be really present and to really dive into my work, myself, and my spirit more intensively. I think that's reflected in a lot of music that's put out now — ZULUZULUU, for instance, have really evolved their sound and their message.

"You get pushed up against the wall, and there's nothing you feel like you can do. Sometimes the darkness was so much that it was hard to keep going, but once I dug into music and creating, I felt more power. I was more inspired than ever, because we need [music] to survive. It really heals people. I watched a lot of people who were activists come out to our shows and smile and dance and laugh and hug, and that was an instant reminder to me how important it is to do this work. It's a coping mechanism for all of us."



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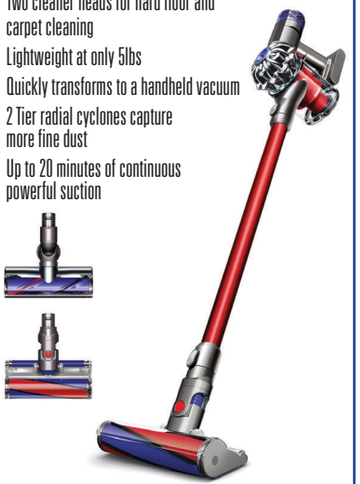

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Food manly enough to satiate Viking war parties and packs of marauding Buick salesmen

TONY NELSON

BY PETE KOTZ

It's 2:30 on a Thursday afternoon, yet the line for a table remains 20 souls deep.

Only months before, this space in Maple Grove was home to Old Country Buffet, a one-time lion of Trough-Style Dining in a Strip Mall Setting. It was a place where Viking war parties could feast on red meat and canned vegetables, then pillage nine Scottish monasteries before hunger lurked again.

But in 2012, the Eagan company moved to South Carolina, a state in collective possession of just four teeth. Old Country was forced to hire taste testers who could only gum their food. Tragedy ensued.

The chain tried to rebrand, redecorate, and remake its menu. But it did so with a slumlord's flair, bringing subterranean skill to ingredients of a way lesser god.

Fish began to hold the texture of deep fried-asbestos. Contractors were soon stealing the mashed potatoes to use as mortar on North Loop condo projects. The company only bought beef from Republican cows, who purposely subsisted off boxed wine and finger sandwiches so their meat turned to blubber. Because they couldn't stand other people having nice things.

In February, Old Country closed seven of its 10 Twin Cities restaurants. The bulk chow industry collapsed.

Decent people trembled. Yes, Old Country sucked. But it served as a beachhead against the Great Incursion of Mustache Farmers Selling Artisanal Bologna. Would we now be at the mercy of $19 small plates of rare acorns and moss?

Then a glimmering halo appeared in the skies over Maple Grove. A savior had arrived. Its name was Golden Corral.

On this fine afternoon, pilgrims crowd the cashier. They're a fetching blend of salt and pepper, mostly middle-aged and elderly, the very people who made this country great before it had to be made great again. Some sport the holy ensemble of flannel and sweatpants. They look good. Very good.

Despite the throngs, chipper Corralians whisk patrons to tables with haste. It's perhaps the greatest performance by a low-wage staff since the Invasion of Normandy. What awaits are steaming trays of glorious chow.

Let us begin with the nobility of the food chain: red meat. Yes, some studies indicate red meat may be bad for you. But as we've learned from the recent election, science is fake. If you just got out of prison, or have a two-week wait for your next Social Security check, this is the place to recharge your gullet.

There's brisket, roast, sirloin, London broil, and Mongolian. We're not talking standard buffet beef here, the kind that looks suspiciously like recycled gloves from the 1965 Houston Astros. This is tender, finely seasoned, cut in sizes manly enough to satiate a pack of marauding Buick salesmen.

There are so many varieties of chicken that this correspondent developed carpal tunnel trying to write them all down. (He

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TONY NELSON

At Old Country, picking from the dessert bar was like grazing at a sawmill. The Corral is equal to a mom-and-pop bakery.

is now in litigation with his employer.)

Yet the assembled firepower is merely the warmup act to the Corral's crowning achievement: fried fish. It's lightly breaded, with exquisite elevations of salt and grease. Without hyperbole, it can be said that this is the greatest fish ever sold. A reconnaissance mission by Red Lobster cooks ended after one bite, when they retreated to the parking lot to tremble in despair.

Alas, the Corral is not perfect. What's missing is the seafood.

According to the Helsinki Accords of 1812, buffets are legally bound to offer at least some fake crab and the kind of pathetic shrimp not even its mother loves. After all, the buffet is the rare place where the general peasantry can afford to delight in treasures of the sea.

Yet Golden Corral comes up dramatically short, like your friend Robby who always kicks in a fiver on a $120 bar tab. Nobody likes Robby.

To compensate, it runs a solid game of side dishes. There's something called "Awesome Pot Roast," a meaty batch of beef, potatoes, and gravy, imposing enough to halt a riot by simply glaring from the other side of town. The spaghetti bake looks like it was cooked by a lady named Irene from your elementary school lunchroom, and it's just as good.

There are also loads of salads — chicken, tuna, potato — discerningly sourced from the mayonnaise farms of Hibbing, accompanied by piles of fresh fruit.

Okay, so "fresh" might be overstating it. But it doesn't taste as if it's been sitting in a truck in Kansas since August. And if you're the guy who goes to a Maple Grove strip mall expecting superior fruit, you're also a gargoyle who expects to marry a Fleet Farm lingerie model.

You should hang out with Robby.

It's this attention to detail — and going the extra mile — that places the Corral above all others. You can't go to Spoon & Stable, order the $29 roasted monkfish, and have the waiter ask, "Would you like to wolf on our breakfast bar while you wait?"

No, you can't. But the Corral throws one up for the hell of it, featuring eggs that might even be real, not pumped in from a tanker truck parked out back.

There's also a surprisingly fine selection of pies and cakes. At Old Country, picking from the dessert bar was like grazing at a saw mill. Yet this stuff is the caliber of a mom-and-pop bakery. And it's accompanied by a giant chocolate fountain vaguely shaped like the Stanley Cup. We're not sure what the point is, especially with so much unclaimed meat lying around. But it makes for a handy playground for the kids.

Earlier this month, the Corral opened a second restaurant in Maplewood. It is also said to be planning joints in Coon Rapids and Burnsville.

The ultimate plan is to encircle the Twin Cities, forcing the Mustache Farmers to retreat to their walk-in closets filled with matching bicycling outfits.

Yes, the Forces of Decorative Food will fight back. They will unleash volleys of spelt flour capunti made from a crème fraiche. They will send forth legions of sommeliers who speak of wine as if it's fermented from rubies and cocaine. But they will be mistaken for Jehovah's Witnesses. Or guys selling lawn care services. The skirmish will be in vain.

America's greatest restaurant is marching through the northern suburbs, flying the banners of virtue and inexpensive meat. It's only a matter of time before they liberate these lands, returning us to the glory days of the Volume Chow Dining Experience.

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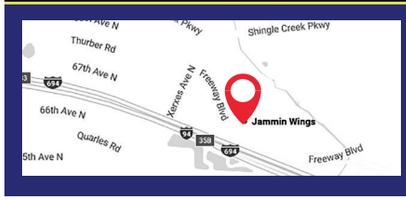

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FIRST AVENUE'S NEW YEAR'S EVE DANCETERIA FT.
PLAIN OLE BILL & LAST WORD
OF GET CRYPHY
ANDTHATSBREON
ROY FREEDOM & DJ SMITTY
HOSTED BY IAN RANS
$5/$10/$20/8PM/18+

FRIDAY, JANUARY 6

89.3 THE CURRENT, GO 95.3 AND SURLY BREWING PRESENT
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NAZEEM & SPENCER JOLES
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SUNDAY, JANUARY 8

TRANSMISSION PRESENTS
HERO
A DAVID BOWIE CELEBRATION
FT. DJ JAKE RUDH
$8/$10/8PM/18+

FRIDAY, JANUARY 13

G. LOVE & SPECIAL SAUCE
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REBIRTH BRASS BAND
RIPE
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SATURDAY, JANUARY 14

10 YEAR ANNIVERSARY SHOW!
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SUNDAY, JANUARY 15

93X, PBR, AND FIRST WRESTLING PRESENT
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DILLINGER FOUR
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WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18

RADIO K AND 89.3 THE CURRENT PRESENT
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FRAEA, LADY MIDNIGHT,
SLEEPING JESUS, TABAH,
TONY PEACHKA, AND MORE
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FRIDAY, JANUARY 20

THE DEVIL MAKES THREE
LOST DOG STREET BAND
$25/8PM/18+

SATURDAY, JANUARY 21

JON WAYNE & THE PAIN
CD RELEASE SHOW
JASON HANN
ZION I
CRUNCHY KIDS
BIG ZACH
$15/$17/7PM/18+

THURSDAY, JANUARY 26

FIRST AVENUE AND ROSE PRESENT
DWEEZIL ZAPPA
50 YEARS OF FRANK
$30/$65 VIP/7PM/18+

FRIDAY, JANUARY 27

89.3 THE CURRENT PRESENT
THE CURRENT'S 12TH BIRTHDAY PARTY
JEREMY MESSERSMITH
JOSEPH
STRAND OF OAKS
BLACK MARKET BRASS
JAY SMART
$20/7PM/18+

SATURDAY, JANUARY 28

89.3 THE CURRENT PRESENT
THE CURRENT'S 12TH BIRTHDAY PARTY
HALEY BONAR
THE LEMON TWIGS
SAM ROBERTS
MONICA LAPLANTE
AND MORE
$20/7PM/18+

SUNDAY, JANUARY 29

DASHBOARD CONFESSIONAL
VINYL THEATRE
$27.50/6:30PM/18+

MONDAY, JANUARY 30

AFI
THE BLOOD TOUR
THE CHAIN GANG OF 1974
SOUVENIRS
$28/7PM/18+

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 6

ST. PAULI PRESENTS
LESS THAN JAKE AND PEPPER
RED CITY RADIO
KASH'D OUT
$25/6PM/18+

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10

DEAD MAN WINTER
THE PINES
ERIK KOSKINEN
$20/7PM/18+

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11

89.3 THE CURRENT PRESENTS
POLIÇA
SPANK ROCK
$25/8PM/18+

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14

89.3 THE CURRENT PRESENTS
JAPANDROIDS
CRAIG FINN &
THE UPTOWN CONTROLLERS
$20/8PM/18+

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15

TOVE LO: LADY WOOD TOUR
PHOEBE RYAN
$30/6PM/ALL AGES

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16

MIKE DOUGHTY
WHEATUS
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3/01 JAKE MILLER *w/* MAX, SPENCER SUTHERLAND *ALL AGES*
3/03 & 04 LAKE STREET DIVE *w/* JOEY DOSIK *18+*
3/06 BLACK JOE LEWIS & THE HONEYBEARS *18+*
3/09 THE GROWLERS: CITY CLUB SPRING TOUR 2017 *18+*
3/10 MAC SABBATH WITH METALACHI - THE 2017 MOCKSTROSITY TOUR *w/* OKILLY DOKILLY, METALLAGHER *18+*
3/12 HIPPO CAMPUS *ALL AGES*
3/15 COLD WAR KIDS *18+*
3/16 VINCE STAPLES: THE LIFE AQUATIC TOUR *w/* KILO KISH *ALL AGES*
3/18 PASSENGER *ALL AGES*
3/21 ANDREW MCMAHON IN THE WILDERNESS *w/* ATLAS GENIUS, NIGHT RIOTS *18+*
3/23 RAILROAD EARTH - WINTER TOUR 2017 *w/* BILLY STRINGS *18+*
3/24 GALACTIC - WINTER TOUR *w/* THE HIP ABDUCTION *18+*
3/29 SON VOLT *18+*
4/02 FOXYGEN *18+*
4/08 MARGO PRICE *18+*
4/17 THE ZOMBIES - 'ODESSEY AND ORACLE' 50TH ANNIVERSARY *w/* DJ JAKE RUDH (TRANSMISSION) *18+*
4/19 SLEEP *18+*
4/20 MAYDAY PARADE - A LESSON IN ROMANTICS 10TH ANNIVERSARY TOUR *w/* KNUCKLE PUCK, MILESTONES *ALL AGES*
5/01 & 02 VULFPECK *18+*
5/03 TESTAMENT *w/* SEPULTURA, PRONG *18+*
5/21 BONOBO *18+*

7TH ST ENTRY

12/14 JAYDEE BEAT BATCH WARS FT. 16 PRODUCERS BATTLING HEAD-TO-HEAD IN HONOR OF THE LATE, GREAT J DILLA *18+*
12/15 THE SUNNY ERA 'SAVE YOURSELF FROM YOU' ALBUM RELEASE *w/* TABAH, THE SUDDEN LOVELYS *18+*
12/16 CHALK, FALLING, STRAYA, AND EGO DEATH *18+*
12/17 MIKE DREAMS 'PARDON MY VICES' RECORD RELEASE SHOW *w/* MUJA MESSIAH, DESTINY ROBERTS, DWYNELL ROLAND, JUICE LORD, ASHLEY DUBOSE, HOSTED BY MR. PETER PARKER, DJ RICH LEE *18+*
12/18 SPIFFY WILDS 'THIS TIME LAST YEAR' RELEASE PARTY AND TOYZ N DA HOOD 2016 TOY DRIVE *w/* SPECIAL GUESTS *18+*
12/19 JAYLAP & ELI'S BIRTHDAY BAR MITZVAH *w/* THE HAPPY CHILDREN, DEVON REASON, LUX & LONGLEY, DJ WNDRLND, DJ SMOOVE, DJ ODINO *18+*

TURF CLUB

12/15 THE VIOLET RISE - ALBUM RELEASE SHOW *w/* DRED I DREAD, THE LONE CROWS *21+*
12/16 LEONARD COHEN TRIBUTE WITH MEAN LARRY (CLOWN LOUNGE) *NO COVER/21+*
12/16 IAN ALEXY AND THE DESERTERS - RECORD RELEASE SHOW *w/* THE FEDERALES, THE LOWLAND LAKERS, TEAGUE ALEXY *21+*
12/17 FURY THINGS, BUTCHER'S UNION, TONY PEACHKA, AND 4TH CURTIS *21+*
12/21 PLAY FOR CHOICE A BENEFIT FOR PLANNED PARENTHOOD WITH LIVE IMPROV, MUSIC, SILENT AUCTION AND MORE *21+*
12/22 ALICE WETTERLUND AND GUY BRANUM *21+*
12/27 FUCK 2016. FT. A ROAST OF 2016 WITH RANA MAY & DREW JANDA *21+*
12/28 DEATH OF A LADIES MAN - A TRIBUTE TO LEONARD COHEN FT. ANONYMOUS CHOIR, LOTT, J.E. SUNDE, DAN ISRAEL *21+*

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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17
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w/ FINDING NOVYON
at TRIPLE ROCK
$15/8PM/18+

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31
City Pages presents
KING
w/ TINY DEATHS, K.RAYDIO, DJ WILLIE SHU
at FINE LINE
$20/$25/$50 RESERVED BALCONY
8PM/18+

FRIDAY, JANUARY 6
CRACKER AND
CAMPER VAN BEETHOVEN
at FINE LINE
$20/7:30PM/18+

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25
BEAR'S DEN
at FINE LINE
$18/$20/7PM/18+

SATURDAY, JANUARY 28
WAX TAILOR
w/ L'ORANGE
at FINE LINE
$15/$18/8PM/18+

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3
First Avenue, Jam, and 89.3 The Current present
AN EVENING WITH
DAWES
at STATE THEATRE
$36/7PM/ALL AGES

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8
SAFETYSUIT
w/ ROYAL TEETH
at FINE LINE
$20/$35 RESERVED BALCONY
7PM/18+

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11
CLOUD NOTHINGS
at FINE LINE
$16/$18/$30 RESERVED BALCONY
8PM/18+

2/14 RUN THE JEWELS - RUN THE WORLD TOUR *w/* THE GASLAMP KILLER, SPARK MASTER TAPE, CUZ *at Myth Nightclub*
2/17 AUSTRA *w/* THE RANGE *at Triple Rock*
2/18 DEAD MAN WINTER *w/* GLEN'S NEIGHBOR *at Pizza Luce (Duluth, MN)*
2/23 NOSLEEP PODCAST *at The Cedar*
2/24 THUNDERCAT *at Fine Line*
2/25 PROF *w/* FINDING NOVYON, METASOTA, WILLIE WONKA *at Clyde Iron Works (Duluth, MN)*
2/27 THE JAPANESE HOUSE *at Triple Rock*
2/28 ELECTRIC GUEST *at Triple Rock*

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A LIST

FRIDAY Standups Josh Gondelman and Andy Erikson **P. 30** **SATURDAY** Drink booze on a Ferris wheel **P. 30** **TUESDAY** Make poo-themed Christmas art **P. 33**

La Natividad marches into the holiday season.

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WEDNESDAY 12.14

HOLIDAY

THE 10TH ANNUAL STAR WARS HOLIDAY SPECIAL TOYS FOR TOTS BENEFIT

BRYANT-LAKE BOWL THEATER

The prequels aren't the only thing in the *Star Wars* canon that sucks. In November 1978, mere months after the first film blew audiences away, the *Stars Wars Holiday Special* aired on television for the first — and last — time. Now, thanks to someone with a VCR and an internet connection, this glorious disaster lives on in the post-irony era, where it flourishes. The special is truly something that every *Star Wars* fan should see at least once, if not many times. (And probably while imbibing the vice of your choice.) There are entire scenes spoken only in "wookie" featuring Chewbacca's family. There's a trippy musical performance featuring Jefferson Starship (check out that phallic microphone!). There's an animated sequence debuting Boba Fett. As is traditional in any Christmas special from the '70s, random stars like Art Carney and a grumpy Bea Arthur make appearances. Dazed and uncomfortable-looking Carrie Fisher, Mark Hamill, and Harrison Ford also show up, too. Once again, Bryant-Lake Bowl invites audiences to see the magnificence that time briefly forgot and fans now love to remember. Admission is a donation of a brand-new toy to benefit Toys for Tots. Screenings are at 3:30, 6:30, and 9:30 p.m. Free with toy donation. 810 W. Lake St., Minneapolis; 612-825-3737. **—JESSICA ARMBRUSTER**

COMEDY

DWIGHT SLADE

ACME COMEDY CO.

Dwight Slade started in standup with his best friend Bill Hicks. Today, the Houston native calls Portland, Oregon, home, and is in what he calls a state of semi-retirement. "The scene in Portland is really healthy, as it is in Minneapolis," he says. "I went down to an open mic here in Portland that was going for 20 years and was closing. And these young guys doing standup were brilliant. They rarely work the road, though, because it's not economically feasible for them. But I was really energized by that, and am trying to do more open mics now." Before the election, Slade did a tour of Canada. "My election jokes went over really well," he notes. "But I had to refine it a bit for audiences in the States." He compares election night to the Oswald assassination. "It just seemed to play out like that over the course of the evening, like it was happening in slow motion: 'Oh...no....he's...going...to...win!'" 18+. 8 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday; 10:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday. $15-$18. 708 N. First St., Minneapolis; 612-338-6393. **Through Saturday** —P.F. Wilson

HOLIDAY

THIS WEEK'S SHOP LOCAL EVENTS

VARIOUS LOCATIONS

Have you made it to a mall yet? Consider skipping the chaos and checking out local events happening this week. On Wednesday, hit up the Joy-Joy Art Sale at Five Watt Coffee (3745 Nicollet Ave. S., Minneapolis; 612-259-7519) from 8 to 10 p.m. All art for sale will be priced at $25 or lower, with proceeds benefiting good causes like Planned Parenthood and the Trevor Project. Sip mulled wine and cocktails, and look into the future with tarot readings. On Thursday, Modern Market (Fast Horse, 240 N. Ninth Ave., Minneapolis) will host local artisans and makers from 6 to 9 p.m. Admission is $10 presale, and $20 at the door. Procraftinate holiday market returns this Saturday from noon to 5 p.m. at Lakes & Legends Brewing Company (1368 Lasalle Ave., Minneapolis; 612-999-6020) with handmade goods including jewelry, beauty products, and housewares. Also on Saturday is Bestow at Public Functionary (1400 12th Ave. NE, Minneapolis; 612-238-9523) from noon to 6 p.m. Here you'll find a variety of local goods while shopping to DJ tunes. Mpls Artist + Flea Market at Bryant-Lake Bowl (810 W. Lake St., Minneapolis; 612-825-3737) on Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. rounds out this week's opportunities for last-minute shoppers. **—JESSICA ARMBRUSTER**

THURSDAY 12.15

THEATER

ALL IS CALM: THE CHRISTMAS TRUCE OF 1914

PANTAGES THEATRE

In this culturally combative era, the notion that warring parties can set aside grievances for even a single evening of peace can feel like a hopelessly naive dream. Thankfully Theater Latté Da is returning to the Pantages Theatre to dispel dour pessimism with a hope-restoring holiday production of *All Is Calm*. Being staged for its 10th year, the acclaimed work draws upon a number of documented instances from World War I in which Allied and German soldiers, having pinned one another down in their respective trenches, spontaneously opted to set aside their weapons for a Christmas Eve armistice. Transforming the battlefield into a scene of comradery, the sworn rivals sang carols, swapped stories, buried their dead, and played a soccer match. Though extraordinary, these Christmas ceasefires have been memorialized in the letters, journals, and other primary source materials that Peter Rothstein, artistic director of Theater Latté Da, drew upon in creating his modern-day holiday classic. Acting on a

CONTINUED ON PAGE 29 ▶

CP HOLIDAY GUIDE

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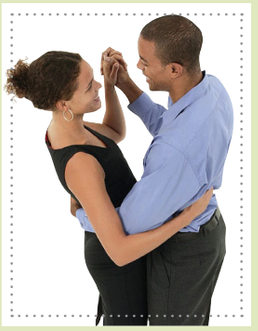

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BYRON GRIFFITHS

CONTINUED FROM THURSDAY ▶

starkly designed set evoking a desolate evening on the frontlines, the 12-person cast gives voice to the weary soldiers with harmonious renderings of songs curated from around the globe. With a diversity of languages unified by a common longing for peace, *All Is Calm* offers a timely reminder that even at our most conflicted, we remain inextricably linked by our shared humanity. 7:30 p.m. Thursday through Saturday; 2 p.m. Saturday; 1 p.m. Sunday. $40-$45. 710 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis; 612-339-7007. **Through Sunday** —BRAD RICHASON

ART/MUSEUM

THIRD THURSDAY: HOLIDAE SPECIAL

MINNEAPOLIS INSTITUTE OF ART

This Thursday, Mia is throwing an artsy holiday party. Get into the spirit of the season while strolling through the galleries, where wintertime pieces will be featured. Watch Dave Muller work as he paints a mural directly on the museum's wall. Sip a cocktail while working on a craft project, and pick up gifts for family and friends in the shop or at the People I've Loved trunk show. Wear an ugly sweater or your sparkly best for the Christmas card-themed photobooth. Music will be provided by pop-synth group Holidae. 6 to 9 p.m. Free. 2400 Third Ave. S., Minneapolis; 612-870-3131. —JESSICA ARMBRUSTER

THEATER

LA NATIVIDAD

IN THE HEART OF THE BEAST PUPPET AND MASK THEATRE

This beloved holiday happening takes the Gospel story of Jesus' birth and uses it as an allegory for how we should welcome immigrants. A true community celebration put together by HOBT and St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church — with the help of neighboring businesses, volunteers, and artists — this production is a multi-location ritual created in the Mexican tradition of la Posadas, a nine-day celebration featuring Christmas processions. *La Natividad* is as magical as it is poignant: There's a wonderful angel choir, playful shepherds, and an event that makes the audience an essential part of the story. This is more than a performance; it's a celebration with a powerful message that's absolutely essential in today's xenophobic climate. Be sure to stay for the community feast that takes place after each show. 6:30 p.m. daily (no show Monday, December 19). $17-$23 (no one turned away for lack of funds). 1500 E. Lake St., Minneapolis; 612-721-2535. **Through December 22** —SHEILA REGAN

FILM

BROWN CINEMA CAFE

INTERMEDIA ARTS

Intermedia Arts continues its Brown Cinema Cafe series this Thursday with a group of short films by and about women from diverse backgrounds. Works set to screen include Eri Mizutani's *Dark Space*, about a woman who loses her memory; *Amo*, by Huya Alghanim, which explores Brooklyn's diasporic Arab community; and Mariama Slåttøy and Sveinung Gjessing's dance film, *Stabilia*. The series will also feature a piece by Irene Garces, *There Was a Place*, about a family that confronts a troubling past, and Derek Price's "cinepoem" featuring Sudanese-Canadian Roua Aljied (aka Philosi-fire) performing her

CONTINUED ON PAGE 30 ▶

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Poet Roua Aljied in *Primary Colors*

COURTESY OF INTERMEDIA ARTS

CONTINUED FROM FRIDAY ▶

poem "Primary Colors" about domestic violence. The evening is curated by Shá Cage and E.G. Bailey of Tru Ruts, in partnership with IFP Minnesota. 6:30 p.m. music, mixer, and snacks, 7 p.m. screening, Thursday. 6:30 p.m. Free. 2822 Lyndale Ave. S., Minneapolis; 612-871-4444. **—SHEILA REGAN**

FRIDAY 12.16

COMEDY

JOSH GONDELMAN

COMEDY CORNER UNDERGROUND

Josh Gondelman wrote the book on how to ruin your life. Literally. Last fall, he released *You Blew It!: An Awkward Look at the Many Ways in which You've Already Ruined Your Life*, where he examined all of the ways to fail miserably in basically any social situation. This spring, he released his second standup album, *Physical Whisperer*. He also works as a writer on *Last Week Tonight* with John Oliver. Since it's obvious that Gondelman thinks free time is for chumps, he's hitting the road and heading to town this weekend for a handful of headlining gigs at Comedy Corner Underground alongside local comedy megastar Andy Erikson. While it's not unusual to see incredibly talented national comedians come through town, it's rare that you have the opportunity to see an Emmy-winning writer in such an intimate setting, talking about hard-hitting topics like dating, family, and his obscene nerdiness. With Gondelman and Erikson together, this promises to be one of the weirdest, most fun comedy shows of the year. 18+. 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday; 10 p.m. Saturday. $15. 1501 Washington Ave. S., Minneapolis; 612-492-1197. **Through Saturday —PATRICK STRAIT**

SATURDAY 12.17

BARHOPPING/HOLIDAY

LOWERTOWN SANTACON IX

LOWERTOWN ST. PAUL

The holidays are about togetherness, and that includes your drinking buddies. For the past nine years, Lowertown SantaCon has been bringing people together. Each year, revelers venture out into the cold night to spread joy and toast to good fortune. Attendees frequently include Krampus, a hooved beast who punishes bad kids while swilling Jager; Santas of all sizes and genders; jolly — and frequently tipsy — elves; and even a few turduckens, dreidels, unicorns, and snowmen. Stops along the way include Black Dog, Golden's, and SW Craft Bar, and shenanigans can be followed live via Twitter at santacon55101. Location updates will be announced at lowertownsantacon.info. 6 p.m. to 2 a.m. Free. **—JESSICA ARMBRUSTER**

HOLIDAY

BETTY DANGER'S COUNTRY CLUB'S ROOFTOP WINTER WONDERLAND DISPLAY

BETTY DANGER'S COUNTRY CLUB

The large Ferris wheel at Betty Danger's didn't retire at the end of summer. This winter, patrons can take a "sleigh ride in the sky." To keep you warm, hot chocolate and cider will served, or opt for a little something extra and they'll spike your drink. As you soar to great heights, you'll be able to take in the neighborhood and city views. Be sure to check out the restaurant's rooftop, which has been festooned with vintage holiday decorations. 5 to 9 p.m. Wednesdays through

CONTINUED ON PAGE 33 ▶

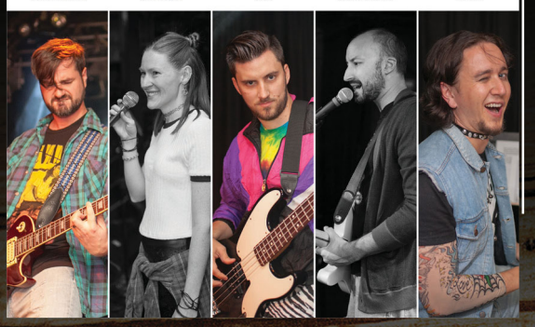
GEORGE MCKELVEY

TUESDAY
12.20.16
8:00 PM
NO COVER

Songwriter, guitarist

FLANNEL

Shawn	Jocelyn	Brent	Brian	Tom
Guitar & Vocals	Lead Vocals	Bass	Guitar & Vocals	Drums



THURSDAY
12.22.16
7:00 PM
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$10 18 GSHARP & THE BIZNE$$ — THE BEST BAND MONEY CAN BUY! — DOORS AT 7PM EVENT ENDS AT 1AM	19 CLOSED	NO COVER 20 GEORGE MCKELVEY — SONGWRITER, GUITARIST — MUSIC STARTS AT 8PM!	$5 21 THE RIVERSIDE SWING BAND — SHANNON & BILLS ROCKABILLY SWING DANCE NIGHT — DANCE LESSONS START AT 8PM	$5 22 FLANNEL — MINNESOTA'S PREMIER 90'S COVER BAND — MUSIC 7:00-11:00	$15 23 THE 90'S RIVIVAL	24 CLOSED
25 CLOSED	26 CLOSED	NO COVER 27 WALTER CHANCELLOR — A TWIN CITIES JAZZ ICON — MUSIC 7:00-11:00	$5 28 THE MODERN SOVRANS — SHANNON & BILLS ROCKABILLY SWING DANCE NIGHT — DANCE LESSONS START AT 8PM	$5 29 G'BEAU — SOUL POP — MUSIC STARTS AT 8PM!	30 MINNESOTA COUNTRY SALUTE CD PARTY — DETAILS TO COME	$15 31 E.L.nO. — V. FUN, HIGHLY DANCEABLE E.L.O. TRIBUTE BAND! — *ADVANCE TICKETS $12*

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DEC. 23

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DEC. 30

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w/ THAT 1 GUY & HEATBOX
DEC. 31

TIIIIIP & GREENROOM PRESENT
BLACKBEAR
JAN. 4

MAYHEM
w/ INQUISITION & BLACK ANVIL
JAN. 25

UPCOMING

12/14 ..... *LEOPRESENTS.COM* **For Today** - FAREWELL TOUR W/ NORMA JEAN
12/17 ..... **SOAP** w/ SLITT & SPACE MONSTER
12/29 ..... **Chopped & Screwed Party!** FEAT. MIKE JONES & MORE!
1/6 ..... **ONE - Metallica Tribute Band**
1/7 ..... **10,000 Days - Tribute to Tool** w/ GUERILLA RADIO-RAGE AGAINST THE MACHINE
1/12 ..... **MPLS Metal Night** FEAT. INVIDIOSUS, VIOLENCE CONDONED & MORE!
1/15 ..... **August Burns Red** MESSENGERS 10 YEAR ANNIVERSARY TOUR
1/26 ..... **The Cadillac Three: The Black Roses Tour**
1/28 ..... *LEOPRESENTS.COM* **The Suit** 10 YEAR ANNIVERSARY TOUR
2/1 ..... **Talib Kweli** w/ STYLES P, & K'VALENTINE
2/3-2/4 ..... **25th Annual Songs of Freedom** - BOB MARLEY REMEMBERED
2/9 ..... *THE NOISE PRESENTS* **Pop Evil**
3/4 ..... **The Menzingers** w/ JEFF ROSENSTOCK, & ROZWELL KID

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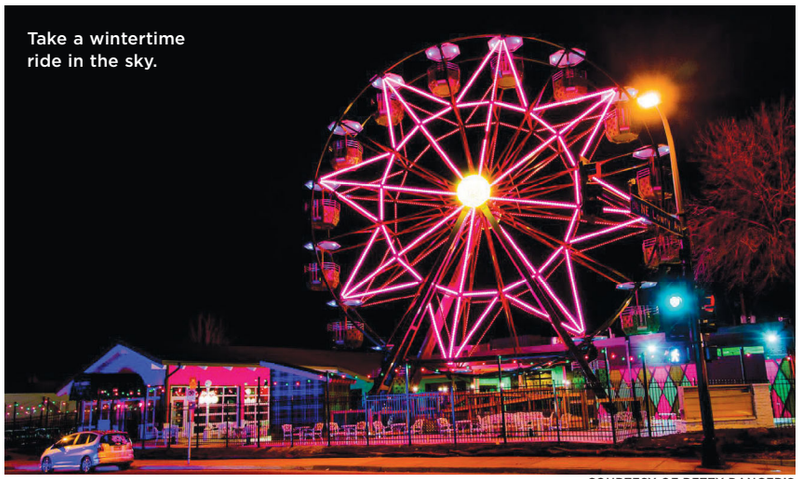


COURTESY OF BETTY DANGER'S

CONTINUED FROM SATURDAY ▶

Sundays. $8; $10 for spiked drinks. 2501 Marshall St. NE, Minneapolis; 612-315-4997. **Through January 31, 2017** —JESSICA ARMBRUSTER

HOLIDAY

IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE

ORCHESTRA HALL

Though *It's a Wonderful Life* has become a holiday staple, inspiring viewers with the tale of a downtrodden man given a final chance to recognize the value of his humble existence, the 1947 film shouldn't be confused with the treacly fluff of the Hallmark channel. Relating the life of the central character, George Bailey, the story seems to delight in thwarting our hero's aspirations, using his own sense of responsibility to derail the lofty dreams of youth. Jimmy Stewart turns in one of his finest performances, transforming from a bright-eyed optimist to a beleaguered adult, regretful of the opportunities lost to the thankless cause of preserving a small-town Building and Loan. The sheer despair on Stewart's face as he contemplates suicide has more nerve than anything else pitched as family-friendly Christmas fare. Such emotional nuances are sure to be heightened even more by the lavish live accompaniment of the Minnesota Orchestra during this special screening at Orchestra Hall. Conducted by the accomplished Sarah Hicks, the vaulted score by Dimitri Tiomkin (a celebrated film composer and four-time Oscar winner) is poised to elevate the stirring sentiments of the film, delivering an inspiring poignancy for anyone feeling a bit like George Bailey this holiday season. 8 p.m. Saturday; 2 p.m. Sunday. $30-$80. 1111 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis; 612-371-5600. **Through Sunday** —BRAD RICHASON

BARHOPPING

SWEET TOYS FOR SICK KIDS

BAUHAUS BREW LABS

Want to feel good about drinking a giant beer? This Saturday, Bauhaus Brew Labs in northeast Minneapolis will be hosting a sweet event for a good cause. Anyone who brings a new, packaged toy will score a free pint. Do you have a super awesome toy to donate? Then the bartender/gift judger may bestow you with an especially big beer. Gifts and clothing will be delivered to the Hennepin County Medical Center, where it will be gifted to those in need at the hospital and throughout the Twin Cities. Noon to 11 p.m. Free. 1315 Tyler St. NE, Minneapolis; 612-276-6911. —JESSICA ARMBRUSTER

TUESDAY 12.20

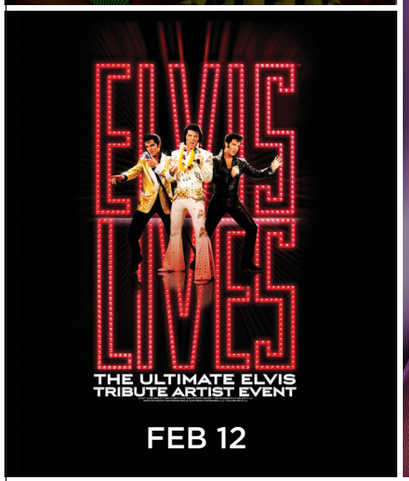
HOLIDAY

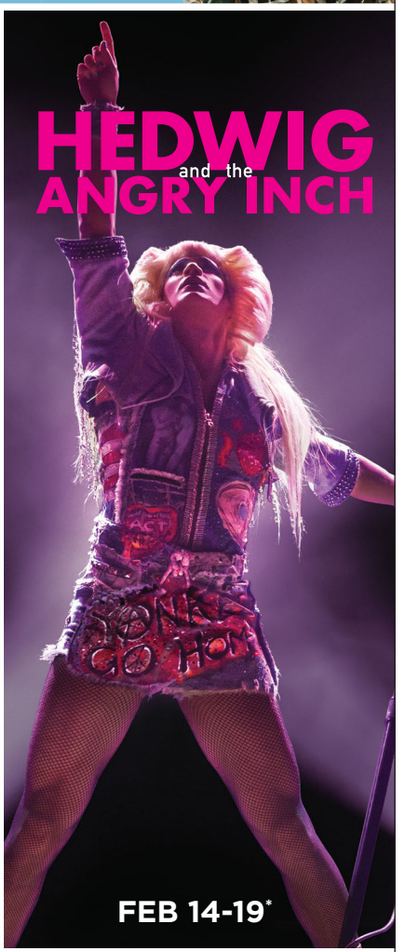
CRAP CRAFT

COMMON ROOTS CAFE

So far, 2016 has been a soul-sucking year. We elected an orange Cheeto to the White House, icons like Prince and David Bowie kicked it, and every day the news has gotten scarier and stranger. It's time to flush it down the toilet. To honor this super shitty year, the Grown-Ups Club is hosting a crafty party at Common Roots. Here folks will be making holiday ornaments modeled after the "poo" emoji we've used so often on the phone and over Facebook. Turns out you can polish a turd, as the crew will have glitter, gems, felt, and other decorations to festoon your piece of crap. Craft beer and wine can be enjoyed as you hot-glue your sorrow away with some therapeutic art. 6:45 to 9 p.m. $5 suggested donation for supplies. 2558 Lyndale Ave. S., Minneapolis; 612-871-2360. —JESSICA ARMBRUSTER

ORDWAY WINTER 2016-17





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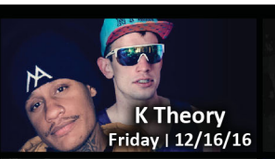
UPCOMING SHOWS

Dirtwire
Friday | 12/16/16


K Theory
Friday | 12/16/16

ASTRONAUT
BARELY ALIVE
DODGE & FUSKI
DUBLOADZ
VIRTUAL RIOT
Saturday | 12/17/16

Lupe Fiasco
Thursday | 12/22/16

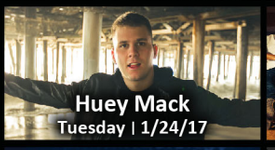
Holi Blaze
TWO STAGES OF MUSIC!
Friday | 12/23/16

THE MOTET
with PHO
Wednesday | 12/28/16

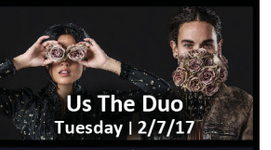
Casey Donahew
Thursday | 1/5/17

DEORRO
Friday | 1/20/17
Dappa Dan

BOOMBOX
Skyway Theatre
Saturday | 1/21/17


Huey Mack
Tuesday | 1/24/17

The Josh Abbott Band
Thursday | 1/26/17


Us The Duo
Tuesday | 2/7/17

Lisa Lampanelli
Saturday
2/18/17

Saturday
2/25/17
LOTUS

PAPADOSIS
2K17
Friday
3/10/17

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THE MODERN MUSICAL

La La Land fails as a musical, succeeds as a romance

Sebastian (Ryan Gosling) and Mia (Emma Stone)

DALE ROBINETTE

BY MICHAEL NORDINE

What I like about *La La Land* is what many others are sure to dislike: It isn't a very good musical.

Emma Stone and especially Ryan Gosling aren't the most gifted of singers, and after the first act, Damien Chazelle's follow-up to *Whiplash* mostly ceases to be a traditional musical at all. But it is an affecting romance, one with genuine chemistry between its two leads. It's both an ode to and exemplar of the movie magic of yore.

The film opens with an elaborate, enervating song-and-dance number that shuts down a major freeway in Los Angeles. It gets mercifully mellow from there. The two soon-to-be lovers meet cute in the ensuing traffic jam, an event we see from both perspectives.

Then comes their first real encounter: Mia (Stone) watches in awe as Sebastian (Gosling) gets fired from his piano-playing gig for abandoning the crowd-pleasing Christmas tunes in favor of some aspirational free jazz. "I just heard you play," she says as he walks toward her, "and—" then he bumps into her on his way out the door without saying a word. Fret not, romantics: The two fall in love a short while after this second almost-encounter.

La La Land is rarely as moving as it is during their winsome courtship. Chazelle imposes all manner of familiar plot contrivances to get in their way, from a difference of opinion on the merits of jazz to a boyfriend we know won't last more than a few scenes. But love conquers all — at least for a time.

Many of the couple's troubles are both professional and creative. Sebastian's a struggling musician and would-be club owner whose admiration of old-school jazz greats isn't as forward-thinking as those legends themselves. Meanwhile Mia is attempting to launch an acting career with a one-woman show. Both by choice and by accident, they're constantly reminded of the heights to which they've yet to ascend: Mia works in a coffee shop on a studio lot, while Sebastian surrounds himself with LPs recorded by luminaries he wants to both honor and live up to.

La La Land exists in the space between glitz and glamour, blooming love and growing disappointment. Movie-star murals are painted on the sides of storage buildings, once-great clubs now pander to the musical fads of today. It's here that Chazelle's film first shows its melancholy side, which takes hold in the second half and threatens to never let go.

Movies end and the lights come on; dreams end and you wake up. Who you find next to you when your eyes adjust to the light — whether in the theater or in your bed — counts for everything. Sometimes there's no one there at all. We do grand, foolish things to avoid that eventuality — singing and dancing is just the tip of the iceberg — and imagine other realities for ourselves when the real one isn't to our liking.

There's joy to these flights of fancy, but great sadness as well. *La La Land* expresses both ends of this emotional spectrum throughout. We're given a glimpse of a future that's no less beautiful for the fact that it will never come to pass.

LA LA LAND
directed by Damien Chazelle
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A talented cast can't save *The Norwegians*

MELISSA HESSE

BY JAY GABLER

THE NORWEGIANS
Grain Belt Brewery Warehouse
77 13th Ave. NE, Minneapolis
www.darkstormy.org; through December 30

It's immediately clear from how the setting is described what kind of play *The Norwegians* is going to be. According to the program, the events take place in "Minnesota. Now. Winter (always)." We've just had the warmest fall on record, and our state bird is moving north because of climate change... but sure, let's just make this about how Minnesota is pure permafrost.

Let's also make it about white ethnic essentialism, because that's always been good for a laugh in Minnesota — or, at least, it has been since Scandinavian-Americans stopped being seen as undesirable minorities and German-Americans stopped being suspected of harboring Nazi sympathies.

C. Denby Swanson's play just premiered in 2013, indicating that someone, somehow, still thinks we need to take another swipe at hot dish. Maybe this seemed novel in New York, where the play debuted, but in its Twin Cities premiere, courtesy of Dark & Stormy Productions, this material seems about as fresh as a fillet of frozen lutefisk. There's a lot of talent involved in this production, from director Joel Sass on down, but it can't save this script.

Olive (Jane Froiland) is a transplant from Texas to Minnesota, where her heart was broken so badly that she's ready to murder the bastard who dumped her. Enter the Norwegians: Tor (Luverne Seifert) and Gus (James Rodríguez), gangsters who describe themselves as "the nice ones." They welcome Olive and solicitously take her order for a snuffing, all the while humble-bragging about their proud heritage.

That meeting is repeatedly interrupted by flashbacks in which Olive walks into a bar and meets the suspiciously intense Betty (Sara Marsh), who had one of her own exes killed and enthusiastically recommends it. We know these scenes are flashbacks because they're signaled by the sound of a rewinding tape, as the actors "rewind" their bodies by spinning around and flailing their arms.

Eventually there's a slow-arcing plot twist, but the plot isn't the point of this show: The story is a frame on which to hang long, unfunny monologues about the characters' love-hate relationship with Swanson's hoary stereotype of Minnesota. Marsh works herself into a frenzy as she describes the Norwegian she loved and lost, but trying to spark interest in this material is like trying to squeeze water from a runestone.

There's more, too much more: a non sequitur dance fantasy, an aside about what Tor is thinking when he looks into the face of someone who's about to die, an extended discussion about the nature of irony.

The show's premise invites comparisons to Gopher-gothic classic *Fargo*, and the eerily smiling Rodríguez paired with the imposing Seifert could have made for a genuinely scary situation. The only thing frightening about *The Norwegians*, though, is that when it's finally over you find yourself 90 minutes closer to death.

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ERIN DRUVA

THE VIOLET RISE

TURF CLUB, THURSDAY 12.15

Who knows exactly where Sasha Druva became a musician. He was born in Australia, but his family moved as many as 16 times when he was a kid. Among the places he's called home: Ohio, Colorado, Florida, Seattle, and Minneapolis. Eventually, family brought Druva back to Minnesota, where he was introduced to bassist Jacob Finney and drummer Kevin Weinreis. Together, they form throwback psychedelic blues trio the Violet Rise. The joke among the threesome is, "Who knows what Sasha wants us to do?" Somehow, they've figured it out, as the band are celebrating the release of their eponymous debut album on Thursday. One of the guiding lyrics on the LP is "Can you live without love?," a question that's been plaguing Druva lately. "This world is kind of scary, especially currently," he says. Other tracks on the album tell stories or are blues-based love songs inspired by the 28-year-old's relationship with his wife. "The ultimate goal," Druva says, "is to be a mix between Robert Plant and Jimmy Page." With Dread I Dread and the Lone Crows. *21+. 7:30 p.m. $5. 1601 University Ave. W., St. Paul; 651-647-0486.* —ERICA RIVERA

SONNY KNIGHT & THE LAKERS

DAKOTA JAZZ CLUB, FRIDAY-SATURDAY 12.16 & 12.17

By now, Sonny Knight's story is well known: His fledgling 1960s music career was curtailed for decades while he drove a truck for a living. A chance encounter with Secret Stash label honcho/drummer Eric Foss led to the classic soul and R&B singer joining a swaggering crew half his age. For their annual holiday residence at the Dakota, they're supporting the October release of their sophomore LP, *Sooner or Later*, which digs deeper into the roots of soul and funk. The rousing title track could be a slice of Knight's life story: "Sooner or later I'll get mine," he shouts over Cole Pulice's blustery bari saxophone and a raucous chorus of other horns. "It Had to Change" is Robert Cray-like blues, Blair Krivanek lacing sharp guitar lines around Pulice's grumbling bari. The cover of Lonnie Mack's "Why?" is an exquisite exercise in bluesy anguish and commiserating horns. A Muscle Shoals concoction of country, soul, and gospel fuels tunes like "Stronger in the End" and "The Cry." Perhaps most striking is the gospel-rave "Oh, Mary," with a harrowing anti-violence message direct from the grave. *$25 at 7 p.m., $20 at 9 p.m. 1010 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis; 612-332-5299.* —RICK MASON

LOW & FRIENDS CHRISTMAS AND HOLIDAY BAZAAR

FIRST AVENUE, SATURDAY 12.17

Maybe the most remarkable thing about Low — one of Minnesota's best bands for more than 20 years — is the Duluth trio's longevity, especially considering the seeming limitations of their sound. They've come to be the face of the indie-rock subgenre "slowcore," originally carving a spot for themselves with low-BPM tempos and minimal arrangements, getting additional color from the harmonies of husband-and-wife team Alan Sparhawk and Mimi Parker. Over the years, they've switched things up by working with various producers (including Steve Albini, Dave Fridmann, and Wilco frontman Jeff Tweedy) and giving Parker added presence and freedom as a singer, particularly on 2013's *The Invisible Way*. Their latest album, last year's *Ones and Sixes*, stands as a lively, accessible career highlight; it's arguably one of group's three or four best records. As for Low's "friends" set to join the holiday festivities, the list includes rising local indie-rockers Hippo Campus (who are two months shy of the release of their debut album, *Landmark*),

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SMOKEY ROBINSON

MYSTIC LAKE, SATURDAY 12.17

As a singer, songwriter, producer, Motown exec, and all-around creative force, Smokey Robinson has had a profound influence on popular music. The Miracles were formed in his Detroit high school, then racked up hit after hit through the '60s, his distinctive, soulful falsetto and poetic turns of phrase etching the rocky paths of happiness and heartache. "Shop Around" helped establish Motown Records with its first chart-topping hit in 1960. What followed are now icons, including "You've Really Got a Hold on Me," "Ooo Baby Baby," and so many others. At the same time, Robinson wrote a succession of gems for other Motown artists, including Marvin Gaye's "Ain't That Peculiar" and the Temptations' "My Girl." At 76, Robinson has a voice that's still miraculously supple and expressive. Already a member of the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame, Robinson last month was awarded the Library of Congress Gershwin Prize for Popular Music. An all-star tribute concert was recorded for broadcast on PBS in February. Host Samuel L. Jackson's key quote: "If we want to make America great again, we should make people walk around singing Smokey Robinson songs." *18+. 8 p.m. $69-$109. 2400 Mystic Lake Blvd., Prior Lake; 800-262-7799.* —RICK MASON

MIKE DREAMS

7TH ST. ENTRY, SATURDAY 12.17

Minneapolis rapper Mike Dreams' accomplishments are many — for one, his song "So Long" appeared in an episode of the Starz drama *Power* — but he's still underrated. While he doesn't exactly embrace the "conscious rapper" label, the 28-year-old has an impressive control of language and a penchant for thoughtful song concepts (which at times recall his fellow south Minneapolis native Slug). He also has an eclectic taste in beats, whether it's boom bap or something more futuristic and electronic-oriented. For his first show at 7th St. Entry in four years, Dreams is celebrating the release of his long-awaited *Pardon My Vices* LP, his fourth album and follow-up to 2012's *Millennial*. So far, previews of the album include "Change Up" and "Cheddar Bay Biscuits," which, while immediately effective for their trap-influenced production, serve as reminders that Dreams is extraordinarily talented with a pen. With Muja Messiah, Destiny Roberts, Dwynell Roland, Juice Lord, and Ashley DuBose. *18+. 9 p.m. $8. 701 First Ave. N., Minneapolis; 612-338-8388.* —MICHAEL MADDEN

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Slouching Toward 2017

How the hell do we get through this administration?

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DEVASTATED OVER NATIONAL ELECTION

First and most importantly, DONE, you don't have to fuck anyone you don't wanna fuck—period, the end—but we owe it to ourselves to be thoughtful about who we're fucking, who we aren't, and why.

I'm not suggesting the data I'm about to cite obligates you to fuck anyone. But queer voters (a group that includes millions of people of color) didn't just reject Trump, they did so by wider margins than some communities of color (groups that include millions of queers). While 14 percent of LGBT voters backed Trump, 28 percent of Latino voters and 19 percent of Asian American voters backed Trump. (Only 8 percent of African Americans voted for Trump.) The shitty and unfathomable votes of some POC—and some queers (WTF, 14 percenters?)—doesn't get your white partners off the hook. It's possible your white queer partners didn't do enough to persuade their families to vote against hatred, fascism, racism, and Trump.

I'm not going to tell you what to do, or who to do, or how to process the election. I am going to tell you to talk with all your partners about your fears and your anger, and I encourage you to do whatever and whoever feels right going forward.

I have an idea that might make it a bit easier for us to survive Trump. What if there were "Trump Minus 100" parties? Every time we get another 100 days closer to the end of the Trump/Pence administration, we have a get-together to celebrate, commiserate, protest, raise money, whatever. The first party would be a few days before the inauguration, and then three or four parties a year after that. Here are how the dates fall out: January 15, 2017 (1,100 days left); April 25, 2017 (1,000 days left); August 3, 2017 (900 days left); November 11, 2017 (800 days left); February 19, 2018 (700 days left); May 30, 2018 (600 days left); September 7, 2018 (500 days left); December 16, 2018 (400 days left); March 26, 2019 (300 days left); July 4, 2019 (200 days left); October 12, 2019 (100 days left); January 20, 2020 (0 days left). What do you think?

ONE HUNDRED DAYS AT A TIME

Dan Savage

Something about seeing the next four years broken up into 12—just 12!—100-day chunks makes it seem less daunting. Orange Julius Caesar can do a lot of damage over four years, but breaking his term into 100-day increments, and making each hundredth day a day of action, is a great idea. If someone out there wants to pick up OHDAAT's idea and run with it, I purchased the URL TrumpMinus100.com. Get in touch, show me your plan, and I'll pass the URL on to you.

In response to the reader who suggested protesting at Trump's inauguration, everyone needs to know that a protest is already planned! It's called the Women's March on Washington, but all genders are welcome, and local protests are being organized around the country for those who can't make it to Washington, D.C.

PROTESTING IN MINNESOTA

Thanks for sharing, PIM!

mail@savagelove.net
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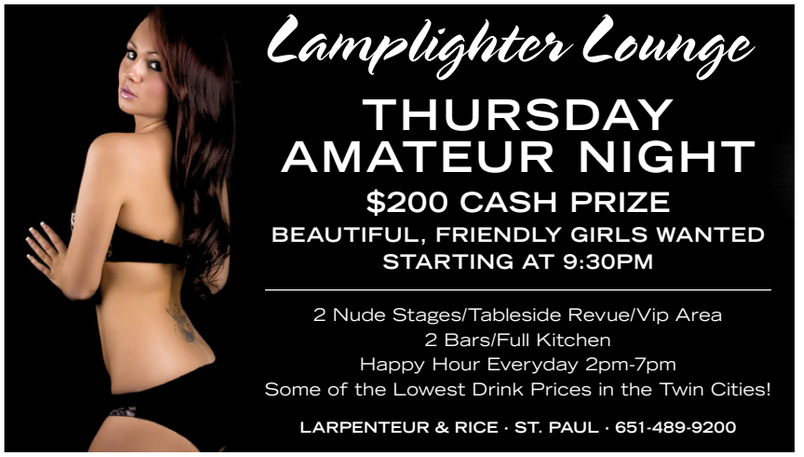

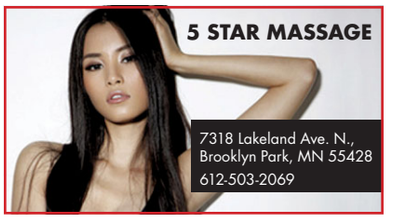

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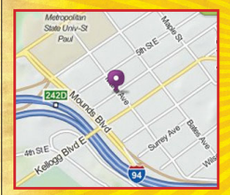

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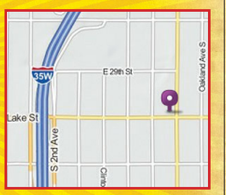

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STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF HENNEPIN

DISTRICT COURT
FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Case Type: Property Damage

Court File No.: 27-CV-16-16892

Metropolitan Council,

Plaintiff,

vs.

Dustin Johnson, Madonna Johnson, Mauro Torres Lopez and Mauro Torres Diaz, Defendants.

SUMMONS

TO: DEFENDANTS DUSTIN JOHNSON, MADONNA JOHNSON, MAURO TORRES LOPEZ, AND MAURO TORRES DIAZ.

1. **YOU ARE BEING SUED.** The Plaintiff has started a lawsuit against you. The Plaintiff's Complaint against you is attached to this summons. Do not throw these papers away. They are official papers that affect your rights. You must respond to this lawsuit even though it may not yet be filed with the Court and there may be no court file number on this summons.

2. **YOU MUST REPLY WITHIN 20 DAYS TO PROTECT YOUR RIGHTS.** You must give or mail to the person who signed this summons a written response called an Answer within 20 days of the date on which you received this Summons. You must send a copy of your Answer to the person who signed this summons located at:

Daniel J. Stahley
Provo Peterson & Associates, P.A.
8649 Eagle Point Boulevard,
Lake Elmo, MN 55042

3. **YOU MUST RESPOND TO EACH CLAIM.** The Answer is your written response to the Plaintiff's Complaint. In your Answer you must state whether you agree or disagree with each paragraph of the Complaint. If you believe the Plaintiff should not be given everything asked for in the Complaint, you must say so in your Answer.

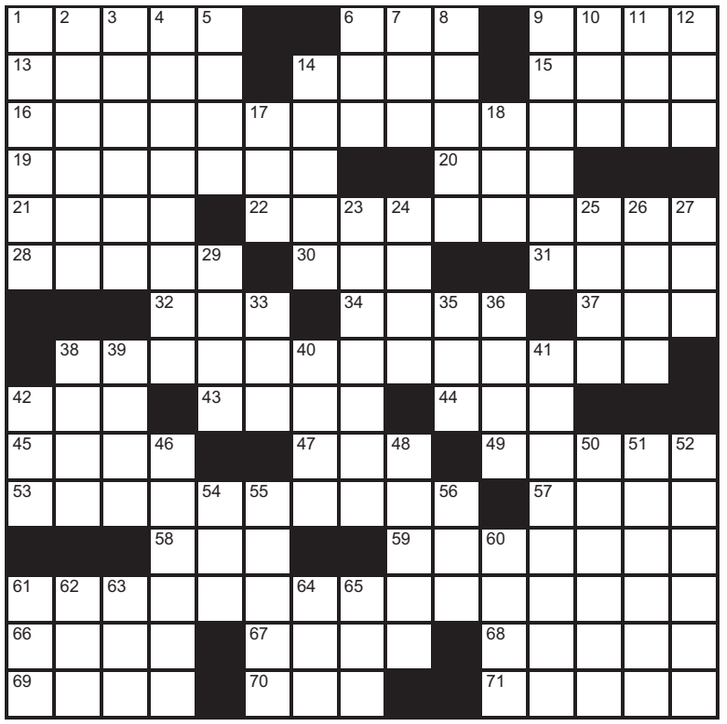
4. **YOU WILL LOSE YOUR CASE IF YOU DO NOT SEND A WRITTEN RESPONSE TO THE COMPLAINT TO THE PERSON WHO SIGNED THIS SUMMONS.** If you do not Answer within 20 days, you will lose this case. You will not get to tell your side of the story, and the Court may decide against you and award the Plaintiff everything asked for in the complaint. If you do not want to contest the claims stated in the complaint, you do not need to respond. A default judgment can then be entered against you for the relief requested in the complaint.

5. **LEGAL ASSISTANCE.** You may wish to get legal help from a lawyer. If you do not have a lawyer, the Court Administrator may have information about places where you can get legal assistance. Even if you cannot get legal help, you must still provide a written Answer to protect your rights or you may lose the case.

6. **ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION.** The parties may agree to or be ordered to participate in an alternative dispute resolution process under Rule 114 of the Minnesota General Rules of Practice. You must still send your written response to the Complaint even if you expect to use alternative means of resolving this dispute.

PROVO-PETERSEN & ASSOCIATES, P.A.
/s/ Daniel Stahley | Dated: 6/16/16
Daniel J. Stahley (#387208)
Attorneys for Plaintiff Metropolitan Council
864 Eagle Point Boulevard | Lake Elmo, MN 55042 | (651) 227-2534

CROSSWORD



"OH, 'EH YOU!"

BY BRENDAN EMMETT QUIGLEY

Across

1 Dash instruments
6 Mo. when Malcolm X was assassinated
9 ___ piece
13 OWN owner
14 Said, as a farewell
15 Political pundit Klein
16 Interrupted the press conference?
19 "I can't afford that"
20 Let the ___ fly
21 Dove noises
22 Storage area for unsold Camaros?
28 Win 4 out of 4
30 Broody
31 Shoe shaper
32 Org. on a toothpaste tube
34 Sneaker with a formstripe
37 Blu-ray cousin
38 French declaration after a Hawaiian island declares independence?
42 Sleeping
43 Sound like you've had a few too many
44 Battle royal, for short?
45 It may force a hand
47 ___ A. Bank
49 Miller's milieu
53 Quidditch, Calvinball, etc.?
57 Franklin W. ___ College (no relation to Lena, I think)
58 Floor it
59 It may be shared on an airplane
61 Meeting with a sentence fragment?
66 Clue accusation piece
67 Journey to the mall with a 4-month-old, it seems
68 Black Panthers leader
69 Coupler
70 "Singing" musical instrument
71 Melville work

Down

1 "Pardon the Interruption" sidebar fodder
2 "Funny People" director Judd
3 Defoe hero
4 Parks it
5 Illustrator Silverstein
6 It's got all the answers
7 End of a professor's e-mail address
8 Thick
9 Steve McQueen vis-à-vis Dr. House on "House"
10 Bullet sprayer
11 Cut with a pick
12 A/C setting
14 Come clean?
17 Bashful's pal
18 Road hog, for short
23 Streaker of stories
24 Tout à ___ (sincerely yours)
25 Language from which the word "dungaree" is borrowed
26 Dinah's brother
27 "Ideas Worth Spreading" conference
29 Some Droids
33 NFC South team
35 "Teen Wolf" channel
36 Midwest city which lends its name to a Republican straw poll
38 Selene's counterpart
39 Famous fictional rebuke
40 King stalker
41 Lawman?
42 Ox
46 Dig up
48 Measure (up)
50 Brewpub feature
51 Mrs. Tom Brady
52 Starter follower
54 Some votes in Venezuela
55 Big name in specialty coffees
56 Full-house indication, for short
60 Has no other choice
61 Turn on the waterworks
62 Football hooligans go here
63 Thumbs up
64 See 65-Down
65 With 64-Down, big name in baseball caps

Last Week's Answer

A	T	O	M	S	■	F	O	G	S	■	J	O	T	
P	I	L	O	T	■	O	B	O	E	■	O	D	E	
E	N	D	O	R	■	L	I	A	M	■	G	I	N	
■	■	■	G	O	O	S	E	L	I	N	G	O	S	
A	R	E	■	D	U	O	■	■	■	F	L	U	E	
M	A	N	G	E	R	M	E	A	S	L	E	S	■	
E	G	G	O	■	■	■	E	L	K	■	■	■	■	
S	U	R	V	I	V	A	L	T	I	C	T	A	C	
■	■	■	■	I	O	N	■	■	■	I	O	T	A	
■	R	I	D	I	N	G	B	E	R	G	M	A	N	
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R	E	D	T	I	E	C	A	K	E	S	■	■	■	
A	L	E	■	D	R	A	T	■	B	A	N	J	O	
F	I	N	■	L	A	M	E	■	O	X	B	O	W	
T	N	T	■	E	S	P	N	■	K	E	A	N	E	

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